

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 403.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 18, 1835.

PRICE
FOURPENCE.

This Journal is published every Saturday Morning, and is received, by the early Coaches, at Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, Dublin, Glasgow, Edinburgh, and all other large Towns; but for the convenience of persons residing in remote places, or abroad, the weekly numbers are issued in Monthly Parts, stitched in a wrapper, and forwarded with the Magazines to all parts of the World.

[JAMES HOLMES, TOOK'S COURT.]

REVIEWS.

Voyage of the U.S. Frigate Potomac, under the command of Commodore John Downes. By J. N. Reynolds. New York: Harper and Brothers; London, O. Rich.

NATIONS have their several failings and weaknesses as well as individuals, and are, consequently, equally bound in prudence to be mindful of mutual charity and forbearance. It is on this account that we always feel distressed when the oddities of Brother Jonathan, his swaggering and occasional rhodomontade, are dragged into light, and made the subjects of animadversion. The conceited and assuming manner so strongly reprehended, does not express, in nine cases out of ten, half so much arrogance as the usurped censorship which condemns it. It ought, too, to be remembered, that our transatlantic relative is young, and of a sanguine temperament; that he is of highly respectable lineage, (there was always a good deal of pride in the family,) that he is well off in the world, and has excellent prospects. His boastings and chuckling anticipations will, in all probability, be moderated by time and experience. We therefore wink at frailties of this kind; but it would be carrying indulgence too far, to keep silence with respect to certain defects of moral sentiment, the consciousness of which must be rendered painfully intense, before any attempt will be made to correct them. We fear that Jonathan, rejoicing in the "hairy strength" of his mother-wit, and little used to genteel society, has imbibed too few of the prejudices of genteel education; and above all, that he is unfortunately but little acquainted with what may be called the antagonist sentiments of feudal barbarism,—sentiments which, in Europe, have descended with the feudal estates, and have gone far to counterbalance the evils of the system which gave birth to them—we mean the sentiments of chivalry, that refined sense of honour which studies, above all things, to guard valour from suspicion of brutality, and to join prowess hand in hand with generosity.

In support of this reflection, ample illustration will be found in the volume before us, of which it is now time that we should say something. As discovery was not the object of the *Potomac's* voyage, we have no reason to complain, because the narrative of the voyage contains but little that is new. Besides, it must be remembered that historical accounts of Rio Janeiro, of the Cape of Good Hope, of Java, and other places at which the *Potomac* touched, compiled chiefly from English writers, though commonplace here, may be interesting and novel in the United States. The style of Mr. Reynolds, whose pencil (to borrow an expression of his own) appears to be evermore dipped in the colours of the rainbow, and to be touched by the hand of Raphael, is not chaste or correct enough for "the old country." He is too studious of fine writing to be natural or im-

pressive. But these, it must be confessed, are trifling faults. We have seen worse materials than those of Mr. Reynolds's volume, and a much worse style, spread by London publishers over three portly volumes. Besides, Mr. Reynolds's volume contains, embedded in the paste of compilation, what, we doubt not, he considers a brilliant gem—viz. the account of the engagement at Quallah Battoo, in which we, on the other hand, find a sample of warfare carried on too much in the spirit of backwoodsmen, or of the feline species. We feel less difficulty in speaking freely of this affair, since citizens have been found, both in and out of Congress, who reprehended it severely.

The *Potomac*, a new frigate of the largest size, was commissioned in 1831, and placed under the command of Commodore J. Downes, for the station in the Pacific. It was at first intended that she should proceed by way of Cape Horn to the coasts of Chili and Peru, but, before her equipment was complete, circumstances occurred which changed her immediate destination. An American merchant ship, the *Friendship*, while taking in a cargo of pepper at Quallah Battoo, on the western coast of Sumatra, was piratically seized and plundered by the Malays of the place, and some of the crew were killed. The commander escaped, and with the assistance of some other American traders, whom he met with on the coast, retook his ship; but he lost the voyage and much property. The American government wisely determined to meet this outrage with prompt punishment, and not to allow the insolence of a semi-barbarous people to increase from impunity. Commodore Downes was, therefore, ordered to direct his course at once to Sumatra by the Cape of Good Hope, to obtain redress for the injury, and then to proceed to his station in the Pacific. His instructions, on the supposition that the information obtained from the owners and commander of the *Friendship* respecting the political condition of that part of Sumatra was correct, was as follows:—

"The President of the United States, in order that prompt redress may be obtained for these wrongs, or the guilty perpetrators made to feel that the flag of the Union is not to be insulted with impunity, directs that you proceed to demand of the rajah, or other authorities at Quallah-Battoo, restitution of the property plundered, or indemnity therefor, as well as for the injury done to the vessel; satisfaction for any other depredations committed there on our commerce, and the immediate punishment of those concerned in the murder of the American citizens, Charles Knight, chief officer, and John Davis and George Chester, seamen, of the ship *Friendship*."

To this, it is further added,—

"Should the information obtained on the spot give a different character to the transaction from that furnished by the department, showing any real disapprobation of the plunder and murder by the population at large or by their rulers, or any provocation given on the part of our citizens,

or the existence of a regular responsible government, acting on principles recognised by civilized nations in their conduct towards strangers, you will confine your operations to a regular demand for satisfaction on the existing authorities at Quallah-Battoo; to be rendered by a restoration of the property, indemnity for the other injuries, and a punishment of the offenders."

It is evident that the intention of the American government was, that according to the established usage of civilized nations in such cases, satisfaction should be demanded, before recourse was had to arms; and that at any rate, the punishment should fall only on the guilty. Let us see now how Commodore Downes, commanding a frigate of the first class, mounting in all sixty-four guns, thirty-two pounders on her gun-deck, and having on board 500 men, proceeded to execute his commission.

"In order that the Malays might not comprehend the real designs and character of the *Potomac*, the stump topgallant masts were got up, the maindeck guns run in and ranged fore and aft, the half ports shut in, and the white streak so altered as to show only ten ports on a side. The frigate was thus made to assume the appearance of a merchant ship of great burden and capacity, like many of the East India traders. When all was prepared, the commodore, on the 5th of February, stood in, and came to anchor about five miles from the land."

Our author, following the example of his commodore, assumes complacently that the seizure of the *Friendship* was the act of the community, and that it ought to be punished with the rigour usually exercised "on our western frontier," instancing, at the same time, the cases of Black Hawk and other Indian chiefs, the victims of backwoodsman's law. But while Commodore Downes decided so peremptorily on the moral and political responsibility of Quallah Battoo, he felt it desirable to make some inquiries respecting its local situation, before he commenced his attack on it.

"To effect this object, the commodore directed that the following system of espionage be adopted:—a boat was prepared to visit the shore, and Lieutenant Shubrick, in citizen's dress, was to represent the captain of the *Potomac* as a merchantman; while Lieutenant Edson was to represent the supercargo, anxious to procure a supply of pepper. Lieutenants Pinkham, Hoff, Ingersoll, and Acting-sailing-master Totten, dressed as sailors, rowed the boat; and it was intended that they should stroll about the village ground, and pick up what information they could in relation to the state of defence of the Malay forts, while the mock captain and supercargo should open negotiations in relation to a cargo of pepper. These officers having received the necessary instructions from Mr. Barry, as to the plan of opening negotiations with the rajahs, the boat put off from the ship."

It may be easily imagined that the officers of the *Potomac* felt uncomfortable in their masquerade dresses, and that as they approached the shore, their courage sank under the consciousness of deceit.

"There was much surf on the shore at the time; and of the number collected around the

boat, not less than two hundred were armed, some with *krisses* and knives, and others with blunderbusses. It seemed evident that they had some suspicion of the character and object of their visitors; and appeared so formidable in numbers and weapons, that the party deemed it imprudent to land; which caution was approved by the commodore, who had watched with great anxiety the boat's approach to the beach, with the great number of Malays which were seen gathered round the spot where it was expected she would land. The party, of course, returned to the frigate."

As the place could not be reconnoitered by day, it was determined to attack it by night. Here is our author's description of it.

"The town of Quallah-Battoo does not contain less than two thousand inhabitants, and nearly five hundred fighting men. It is situated on a small bight about two miles long; a small stream, passing through the rear of the town, divides it into two very unequal portions, the main part being on the northwest side, where the divisions landed. It is regularly laid out into streets, interspersed with jungle and cocoa-nut-trees, and contains five forts, owned and commanded by different rajahs or chiefs. The natives and their leaders rely exclusively on these forts and their citadels for defence at all times, when engaged in their numerous petty wars with each other, or when expecting an attack from an enemy without; and long have they believed that within these walls no enemy, however formidable, could ever be able to reach them."

Mr. Reynolds ought to have ingeniously told us, whether the forts were built of mud, and what was their strength in honeycombed guns of small calibre. The nocturnal attack was of course successful. The assailants, 250 in number, in four divisions, took by escalade in a very short time four small forts, with the loss of only two men, though the commodore, in his official report of the action, says that the Malays fought desperately, neither giving nor taking quarter. Here is a curious extract from the same official report:—

"While lying here, a flag of truce has been sent off from Quallah-Battoo; and I was informed by the bearer of the same, that a great many had been killed on shore, and that all the property had been destroyed. He begged that I would grant them peace. I stated to him that I had been sent to demand restitution of the property taken from the *Friendship*, and to insist on the punishment of those persons who were concerned in the outrage committed on the individuals of that ship.

"Finding it impossible to effect either object, I said to him, that I was satisfied with what had already been done, and I granted them the peace for which they begged."

He first razes the town and destroys the property, and then tells the wretched inhabitants that he came to demand redress of past wrongs! The town being destroyed, the frigate threw off her disguise; but here again, the commodore must relate his own heroism:—

"In consequence of the fort situated south of the river having fired upon our men while attacking Quallah-Battoo, I ran in with the ship and fired about three broadsides into it, when a white flag was hoisted; upon this I ceased firing, and soon after got under way."

We are not at all surprised to find that the Secretary of the United States Navy Department wrote to Commodore Downes as follows:—

"The President regrets that you were not able, before attacking the Malays at Quallah-Battoo, to obtain there, or near, fuller infor-

mation of the nature of the outrage on the *Friendship*, and of the character and political relations of the aggressors."

"It was desirable, also, that a previous demand should have been made for restitution and indemnification," &c.

But leaving out of account the deviations from orders and the ignorance of the law of nations manifested in this transaction, it appears to us that its arrangement, from beginning to end, betrays a disposition at once timid and sanguinary. Where is the officer in our navy, who, commanding a first class frigate, would disguise his ship, for the sake of stealing on a contemptibly weak enemy, or equip his officers as spies; or who would condescend to the senseless bravado of firing three broadsides at a wretched little Malay fort?

But we gladly turn from Commodore J. Downes, to lay before our readers an account of the Galapagos islands, the recent colonization of which is one of the very few novel topics in Mr. Reynolds's volume.

"This, in some respects, interesting group, which comprises a large number of small islands, is situated nearly under the equator, between the eighty-ninth and ninety-second degrees of west longitude—about two hundred and forty leagues west of the American continent. A majority of these islands are situated a little south of the equinoctial line, though a few scattering islands are found north of it. Albemarle Island, which is the largest of the cluster, is more than seventy miles in length, and stretches north and south, with an eastern coast that is nearly straight; but its western side is deeply concave, embracing the volcanic Island of Narborough. The north head of Albemarle terminates westwardly in Cape Berkley, which is exactly on the line. South and east of Albemarle are Charles's Island, Hood's, Chatham's, Barrington's, Downes's, Porter's, and James's Islands.

"The name of this group is derived from the Spanish word *galapago*, a fresh water *tortoise*; and it was given to these islands because they abound with the largest class of these animals, a species of *terapin*, to which Commodore Porter has given the name of elephant *tortoise*, as their legs, feet, and clumsy movements strongly resemble those of the elephant. Their flesh is most excellent food, and they seem to have been placed here, in these lonely regions, for the sole purpose of refreshing the adventurous mariner, whose hazardous calling is the pursuit of the great leviathan of the deep. Many of them weigh from three to four hundred pounds, and they will live in the hold of a vessel a remarkable length of time without sustenance, and still retain much of their original fitness and richness of flavour. Their drink is pure water, which they carry with them in a vessel provided by nature for that purpose, containing about two gallons, which remains cool, fresh, and sweet for a long time after they are made prisoners.

"The hill-sides of these islands, near the shore, are covered with prickly pear-trees, upon which these *terapin* feed, and thrive in a most wonderful manner. These animals have doubtless saved the lives of many seamen employed in the whale-fisheries in those seas, who would otherwise have perished or suffered much with the scurvy. They sometimes take from six to nine hundred of the smallest of these *tortoises* on board, when about leaving the islands for their cruising grounds; thus providing themselves with fresh and wholesome provisions for six or eight months, and securing the men from the attacks of scurvy.

"Charles's Island, or Floriana, at the northern end of which is *Essex Bay*, in which the *Potomac*

lay at anchor, is about eighteen or twenty miles south-east of Cape Woodford, which projects from the south head of Albemarle Island. The centre of Charles's Island is in latitude 1° 17' south, longitude 90° 30' west; and is about twenty miles in length from north to south, and fifteen in breadth from east to west; giving a superficial area of more than three hundred miles. Like every other island in the Galapagos group, it was uninhabited until 1832, when Vilamil first established his long-projected colony. He informed us that he had this enterprise in view as long ago as the year 1811; two years previous to the appearance of Commodore Porter in these seas, during the late war with Great Britain. * * *

"In January 1832, Colonel Hernandez, with only twelve colonists, was despatched to take formal possession of Charles's Island; and in April and June, settlers of both sexes followed the first. Vilamil, in person, accompanied by eighty colonists, arrived in October, and at once assumed his station as proprietor and governor of the island. Previous to his arrival, little or no improvement had been made; but with this accession, all took greater courage, and began to labour with much zeal; more especially when they found that the whale-ships would be likely to consume their surplus produce; and, taking all circumstances into consideration, their labours have been really successful. Nor do we deem the remark extravagant, that at this time [September, eighteen hundred and thirty-three] the productions of the island are sufficient for several hundred additional inhabitants; and during the coming year, many of our whale-ships may receive an abundance of vegetable supplies. * * *

"The governor, who may with great justice be called the father and founder of the colony, has adopted, certainly, one wise measure. He has prohibited, under the severest penalties, the introduction of all kinds of liquor into the island; and this measure is no doubt the secret cause of the successful experiment already made by the Florianas. At a small party given by the governor to Commodore Downes, water was the only beverage to be seen on the table. He apologized for the want of wine, and remarked, that he adopted it as a rule, not to partake of any luxury that policy required him to prohibit in the island; which apology was deemed good by the commodore and all present. It was very easy, however, to perceive that our host had not spent his whole life in such society; as the number and variety of the dishes brought to the table, formed exclusively of the productions of the island, would have done credit to the good taste of a person surrounded by many more advantages."

This group of islands, enjoying a good climate, and offering, with shelter, abundance of excellent water and fresh provisions, will probably soon rise into importance, from their vicinity to what is called the *off-shore fishing ground*. The protection and encouragement of such colonies is the duty of all civilized and commercial nations.

Noble Deeds of Women. Svo. London: Hookham.

Those who would, indeed, acquaint themselves with the noble deeds of women, should study them in everyday life,—in the cottage, in the factory, beside the bed of sickness, and in the struggle for subsistence. It is there, in her position of wife and mother, that woman shines with the brightest, the steadiest lustre. Great occasions are accompanied by great excitements, and great efforts are necessarily short. It is the persevering, daily-repeated self-denial, the habitual courage, the unobserved, unobtrusive

devotion, which testify to the real nobility of woman's character, and show her, not as the creature of impulse, but the undeviating and devoted martyr of a principle or an affection. Such scenes, however, do not tell in books of anecdote; they require the highest order of talent to embody them with effect. They belong to the masters, or rather to the mistresses, of narrative, and are too vast for the grasp of the mere collector.

As a parlour-window book, the 'Noble Deeds of Women' will answer as well as any other of its class; but, looking at it with a more serious eye, we cannot say that it is calculated to give a just idea of female nature, to teach practical duties, or to form the female mind. The portraiture of the sex, under circumstances of rare and peculiar difficulty, in which the parties, under extraordinary excitements, rise above the ordinary impulses of humanity, tends rather to give a sickly and sentimental estimate of female duty, and to depreciate common everyday morality, as being beneath the consideration of exalted virtue. But these are considerations which entered not, in all probability, into the schemes of the collector. He intended only an unconnected series of anecdotes, without selection, and without moral; and if so, he has fulfilled his design. To those who read only for amusement, and to kill time, we can recommend the volume as much better suited to their purpose than a third-rate novel, or a second-rate voyage down the Rhine.

A Twelvemonth's Residence in the West Indies, during the Transition from Slavery to Apprenticeship, &c. By R. R. Madden, M.D., Author of 'Travels in the East,' &c. 2 vols. London: Cochrane & Co.

A twelvemonth anywhere is just sufficient for a skilful and light-handed literary sketcher to fill a pleasant portfolio; but he should, on such occasions, leave the history and philosophy of his subject to the reader. Dr. Madden, however, appears to have prepared himself by diligent reading for a twelve years' residence; and, his visit being unexpectedly cut short, we are favoured with a good deal of information in much the same crude state in which it heretofore existed on our library shelves. We are not sure that his work will be the less welcome to the general reader on that account; but those who are already well acquainted with the subject, will find it a little difficult to glean, from this abundance, the facts most desired—facts relating to the present condition of the islands, the tone of society, the state of morals, and the prospects of the planters and slaves under the new law. Fortunately, on this latter subject, Dr. Madden gives us a summary containing his own opinions, and we were well pleased to find so temperate and judicious an observer reporting most favourably of the disposition and ability of the negroes, and of their prospects under the law, if fair play be allowed them. Dr. Madden, however, is of opinion, that immediate emancipation would have been better than the system of apprenticeship, but that the apprenticeship system might answer could it be fully, fairly, and in the spirit of the law, carried into execution; which, however, for various reasons assigned, he is of opinion, it has not been, and will not be; and,

therefore, he proposes, that abolition, and the payment of the compensation money, should be simultaneous, and both immediate—a *per-capita* award being substituted for that of valuation.

From the tenor of our observations the reader will naturally infer, that the sketches of living manners are what we like best in these volumes. They are, indeed, done in a skilful and artist-like manner, and bring the scenes very vividly before the reader. In justice to Dr. Madden we shall give a few of these. Here is one on first landing at Barbadoes. The Captain had, it appears, taken his passengers to the establishment kept by Miss Lewis, whose "indefatigable indolence" is, in itself, a picture of West India life. Soon after, the Captain and his friends chanced to pass in front of Miss Betsy Austin's, the rival landlady:—

"How do you do, Betsy," said our Captain, stepping up to the lady, and accosting her with a very hearty shake of the hand. * * *

"I think, Sa, it might be Miss Betsy Austin of your mouth, if you please, Sa!"

"Holloa, Betsy!" replied the Captain, "what has ruffled the usual mildness of your temper this evening? Is this the way you treat your old friends when they call to see you?"

"Old friends!" exclaimed Miss Betsy, with a curl of her short nose, intended to be indicative of contempt; "My friends, Sa, are captains of men-of-war, I'd have you to know, Sa! and none of your skipjacks of post-office packets with one swab on their shoulders, Sa!"

"Come! come! Betsy," said the Captain, "don't abuse the post-office! You know I stopped at your house last voyage and paid you a swinging bill into the bargain, some twenty pounds for self and passengers, Betsy!"

"Don't Betsy me, Sa!" cried Miss Austin, jumping from her chair, and asserting the dignity of her station with all becoming vehemence—"Go to Miss Hannah Lewis! and carry your passengers to her house. Who cares for your custom? what feller are you to call me Betsy! I'll let you know, Mr. Skipjack of a packet-boat, who and what I am; and the next time you see me, I'd have you take care, Sa, you have not cause to remember *Miss Betsy Austin!* who is neither *Crab nor Creole, but true Barbadian born!*"

The Captain having departed,

"Miss Betsy begged a thousand pardons of me and Mr. Colebrook for behaving as she had done before so many good gentlemen. She had never been so hasty before, never knew what it was to get into such a passion.

"The ill-mannered slaves all the time kept tittering and giggling, with an occasional 'Hi! hi! you no hearie dat!' and 'Mi Gar Amighty, whara say missis; nebbber in no passion!'"

The hotel-keeper at Kingston is equally good; there is no doubting that it is a portrait from the life. A stranger on arrival, says Dr. Madden, is naturally anxious to pay his respects to the lady of the house—

"He accordingly presents himself before the figure of a stout young gentlewoman, seated in the end gallery, who scarcely moves as he approaches. The stranger is afraid she is an invalid: he asks the way to the dinner-room; the lady points with her chin to the apartment: he fears the poor young woman is a mute; he determines to ascertain the fact:—"I presume, Ma'am, you are the lady of the house?"—The young woman again points her chin in the direction of an old emaciated brown lady, stalking through the court yard:—"What would your gracious figure intimate by that?" asks the stranger with an inquiring glance. The young woman moves her

lips, and, in due time, she deliberately articulates two words,—"My mother."

But we prefer the characteristic anecdotes of the negroes, which are abundantly scattered over the work. Before, however, we pass on to them, we must give one other of their masters. The following epitaph on a former governor, copied, Dr. Madden assures us, from the tombstone, is, in brief, a picture of Jamaica mind at the time: it could have been written nowhere but in the West Indies or Kentucky:—

Mistake not, reader,
For here not only lies the body
Of Sir Thomas Modyford,
But the life and soul of all Jamaica!

Dr. Madden, it must be remembered, went out as one of the Stipendiary Magistrates, whose especial duty it was to attend to the complaints of the negroes. In his official capacity he received from them various letters, and we select the following as a specimen. The negro lady was about sixty, and her rueful countenance led the Doctor to suppose that she had suffered from "a grievous wrong":—

"Dr. Maddan, Esq.

"Please your worship

"To Hear my Complaint wih I am Entend to Lay Down before your worship and hoping your worship will Have it Justified before your worship that is on Monday the 29th September 1834, one Mrs Hope live in Brown Town She began to through Casom and to abuse but wih She Didnot Call no Name ontill this last Monday She Came to my Gate and put a false Accusation on my Daughter Elizabeth Frances and Call Her a theefe and accuse her of Mug Staling that this Mrs hope Have lost and make use of Great many words in Bad Expeasion and Please your worship I have Gott witness that my Daughter never put her fut in Mrs hope yard and further more wih it Can be Prove that my Daughter Never take her mug and She have Kick up Such a Row that the permanence Guard was Oblige to come out to make Peace and to make Her Keepe Silence from maken use of bad Expeasion before she whould bedon and if your worship Please to Send for her to let her prove that my Daughter taken Her Mug for I think it is hard for my Daughter Character to be taken away falsly and which Mr. Curtiss was the permanence Guard that make Silence and She is a Common Disturbance threout the neighbour Hood.

"I am

"Your obedient Servant

"FRANCES HOWENG."

But the richest specimen in the book is one of negro eloquence. On most plantations, Dr. Madden observes, there is a litigious negro, who regulates the quarrels of the other negroes, and takes on himself the direction of their discontent.

"He is generally a shrewd, plausible fellow—has a good deal of Congo saw, or, in other negro parlance, sweet mouth—and likewise a certain portion of what the Members of the Assembly call slack-jaw—Hibernicè, the gift of the gab. When he wheedles buckra, he does it like an adept in adulation—he daubs his vanity all over. 'Massa much too good to neger; what for neger wish him free? him want no nyam; salt plenty; plenty bitter; too much everything. Him too much happy with him sweet Massa—nebbber to want free. Him born slave—why for no, him not always slave? Him no fuss of August neger, him for true Massa's own neger—who care for Willyforce neger? Hi chu! who have the imperance to call him free neger? * * *

"But no sooner does he get among his own people, than the tune is altered; the obsequious slave becomes the consequential man, impatient

of all temporary restrictions on his liberty, and morbidly alive to every wrong, real or imaginary, that seizes on his attention.

"One of these negro lawyers, whose chief business it is to plague the bushas as much as possible, was sent before me for putting the negroes in a state of insubordination, on a property where the special magistrate, Mr. Lloyd, had been only recently explaining the new law to the apprentices. On that occasion, the negro constable complained of one Mathews, who put a variety of quibbling questions to the magistrate, as to the nature of the crimes which were punishable under the new law. Mr. Lloyd gave him every information; but the man was not satisfied with being told, that disobedience of all legal commands, refusal to labour, insubordination, and disorderly conduct, were punishable. He wanted to know what legal construction was to be put on every word in Mr. Lloyd's replies—what were the boundaries and limits of insubordination.

"One of the plantation negro constables interfered, and told him it was unnecessary to ask such questions; whereupon (the magistrate having gone away) Mathews said to the negroes, the magistrate was not a just one, that he had not told the truth, and the negro constables had taken a false oath, and that, in consequence of their perjuries, their bellies would swell, and they would die. It was given in evidence, that he excited the negroes to a state of discontent only short of actual outrage; since which time they were in a state of insubordination, and the constables were looked upon as under the ban of obeh: such was the evidence of the negroes themselves, as well as the overseer.

"Mathews being called on, advanced with the air of a man who had much to say in his defence, and was primed and charged for the occasion even to the muzzle. It was frequently with difficulty I could keep him from exploding into a speech during the examination of the witnesses. But now, when he caught the signal to pull the trigger of his eloquence, off it went, and I send you the report, in order that you may judge of this discharge of negro oratory.

"Well, massa, since the day me born, me always live like a good neger, and a perfect Christian on Salisbury Plain. Me fader and moder—(he was begged not to go back to the days of his youth) well, massa, leave fader and moder one side—when me was first Christened by parson Camill—(intimation that the charge against him had nothing to do with his baptism) well, massa, no matter about the Christen, soon as me grow up and able to talk a leetle, me always yeevie good advice,—(requested to pass over his childhood) well, massa, say no more of picanini times—new parson open schools; ebry Sunday go to school; soon know plenty—(reminded to leave his school-days for the present times) well, my good massa, say not one word more about school, what signify for true how much poor neger larn? what for neger learn to read book?—to beat gombah all day Sunday? no! to play bonjaw all day Sunday? no! to tell oder negro nancy stories all day long? no! to go after John Canoes in big holidays, or spend picanini Christmas (Easter) dancing and all oder vanities? no, massa! me go to school to larn up-righteous conduct, and to be a perfect Christian. Me neber do nothing bad: work for massa like a good neger; never teef massa's goods; never tell oder neger bad; never make miscief 'gainst busha. Magistrate come to me and yeevie de complaints; him tell me all de law, den me axe what crime for law punish neger so da we regulate our conduct. Him den reckon all crime up. Fus him tell us 'insubordination'; den me say what for dat mean? him say imperance to massa; den me axe what dat mean? him say, if massa tell me for to do something, and we don't yeevie very well, dat mean imperance. Den me axe

if imperance mean saucy, and him say yes. But black neger constable say, what for axe all dese things?—ebry body know what dese things mean. But me axe once more, 'pose me want to pray to Gar Amighty, and busha says there is something else to do, does dat mean imperance? Constable cry again, ebry body knows about dat; den me tell him, ebry constable stops neger's mouth—a false constable, and has taken oath falsely, and ebry body swears false, him belly swell, and him die, but neber said constable die so. Neber said magistrate was a false, an unjust magistrate: him know himself too well, and ebry body know him to be perfect Christian."

There are many other amusing scenes in the work, which, as a whole, we may fairly recommend to public attention.

Outlines of Botany. By Gilbert T. Burnett, F.L.S., Professor of Botany in King's College, London, &c. 2 vols. 8vo. London: Churchill.

The march of intellect is a mighty capricious sort of movement, and, withal, rather troublesome to wait upon. Sometimes it creeps at such "a snail's gallop," that it may be supposed altogether at a standstill. Sometimes it doubles on itself like a hare, and brings us back to some point, which we had hoped to have placed for ever at an immeasurable distance behind us: and sometimes it hurries forward with such gigantic strides, that individual industry "pants after it in vain." The last has for some years been the case with respect to the science of botany, which, within the lifetime of the present generation, has (as parents say of their lubberly children,) "grown out of all knowledge." Not only have the material objects included within the study multiplied almost beyond the power of record to identify them, but the principles, or, as Professor Burnett calls them, the subjective elements of the science, have assumed new forms and dimensions, under the piercing examination of successive physiologists; and are daily acquiring greater importance, with relation not only to botany itself, but to many other branches of enlarged and philosophical inquiry. We are old enough to remember, when the whole art and mystery of botany was included in the recognition of a few of the external forms of plants, and the deriving from these an instrument of convenient classification. For though Linnæus himself had more extended views of the scope and importance of his science, and though many attempts had been made at a rational, or, as it was termed, *natural* classification of plants, (especially on the continent,) yet did the great majority of English botanists arrogate to themselves the denomination, on a bare dexterity in the employment of the Swede's *systema plantarum*, and the power of inserting newly-discovered plants in their proper places in this catalogue. Among the unlearned, even to the present hour, we suspect the science of botany is confounded with the distinctive knowledge of medicinal plants, or, at most, to an acquaintance with the names of the flower-bearing and specious inhabitants of the hot and green-house; and there are many, even above this condition of ignorance, who would have but a low opinion of the most profound vegetable physiologist, if he could not, at sight, give the generic and specific appellations of every heath or geranium in a large collection.

The difference between the ordinary systems of instruction and that before us, is explained by the author to consist in giving "the subjective precedence of the objective view; and, considering subjective botany in general to be distributable, like other branches of natural history, into several subordinate sciences, each devoted to the study of one great natural group of plants; the structure, functions, and uses of which will collectively form a complete, though subordinate science, as well as, disjunctively, constitute the several parts of general vegetable physics, of systematic and economic botany."

Accordingly, the Professor, commencing with the obscure infusorial microscopic beings which are placed in the confines of the animal and vegetable kingdoms, divides his subject into the separate heads of Algæ, Fungi, Musci, Filices, Gramina, Palmæ, Zamia and Pines, Fruges, (herbs and trees,) and Selanthi. Each of these subdivisions embraces an aggregate of plants having a common organic arrangement, which unites them into families, like those which subdivide the animal kingdom. Each, therefore, forms the matter of a separate and distinct treatise, in which the anatomy, physiology, natural history of the several genera are successively exposed. This arrangement has the disadvantage of introducing the student, at the outset, into the most obscure department of botanical investigation. Everybody has some general idea of a phenogamous plant,—is familiar with the ideas of a flower, a leaf, a stem, and, even though he does not know the names, is acquainted with the things called stamina, pistils, seed vessels, &c. &c.: these, therefore, have been almost universally preferred for preliminary demonstration. But the general outline of the Professor's system commences with the following dip into a new and unexplored world:—

"In the ocean, in rivers, and especially in stagnant water, as well as in many damp situations on shore, myriads of minute animals and plants exist, which for ages were utterly unknown; or if noticed, were mistaken for the foam of the waves, or the exuvia of the bodies among which they abound.

"So minute are some of these infinitesimals of vitality, that in a drop of water, it is said, there might be suspended five millions; and eight hundred millions, that is almost as many as the entire human population of the globe, might, if collected, be contained in the space of one cubic inch."

The disadvantage of thus commencing with what is most difficult of access, will be probably not felt by the persons to whom these volumes are especially addressed,—the students in the King's College, who will, it may be presumed, have all made some considerable acquaintance with natural history: but whatever difficulties may beset the peculiar route which the author has taken towards the penetralia of the science, will at all events be much lightened by the very amusing matter with which he has diversified his pages; which, while it disguises the thorns of science, communicates a variety of information, on subjects only collaterally connected with botanical lore.

The following, taken almost at hazard, may be received as specimens.

Caution.—"It may be not irrelevant to observe, so great is its present consumption, that several thousand tons of it have been imported during the few early months of the current year,

while, five or six years ago, it scarcely formed a noticeable entry in our books of customs; and, half a century back, its existence was scarcely known. The first public mention of *caoutchouc*, or, as it was then called, Indian-rubber, which name it still retains, although it is now but seldom used by artists, is in a note, added by Dr. Priestley to the Preface of his 'Treatise on the Theory and Practice of Perspective,' dedicated to Sir Joshua Reynolds, and published in 1770. He says, 'Since this work was printed off I have seen a substance excellently adapted to the purpose of wiping from paper the marks of a black-lead pencil. It must therefore be of singular use to those who practise drawing. It is sold by Mr. Nairne, mathematical instrument maker, opposite the Royal Exchange. He sells a cubical piece of half an inch for three shillings, and he says it will last several years.' Now it is imported by tons, and sells at from 2*d.* to 6*d.* per lb."

Tobacco.—"Like coffee and Peruvian bark, tobacco encountered much violent opposition, when its half-intoxicating and soothing influence recommended it to popular use. Many governments attempted to restrain its consumption by penal edicts. The sultan Amurath IV. forbade its importation into Turkey, and condemned to death those found guilty of smoking, from a fear that it produced barrenness. The Grand Duke of Moscow prohibited its entrance into his dominions, under pain of the knout for the first offence, and death for the next; and in other parts of Russia the practice of smoking was denounced, and all smokers condemned to have their noses cut off. The Shah of Persia, and other sovereigns, were equally severe in their enactments; and Pope Urban VIII. anathematized all those who smoked in churches. In 1654 the council of one of the Swiss cantons cited all smokers before them; every innkeeper was ordered to inform against those who were found smoking in their houses."

The following remarks also, on the size of trees, will be new to many of our readers.

"Few persons, indeed, save those to whom habit has rendered it familiar, form anything like just estimates of the actual size of trees. The situations in which they commonly are seen, harmonizing with the illimitable expanse of heaven, and the wide extent of forest scenery or of mountain heights, lessen ideally their apparent bulk: nor is it till singled from the surrounding landscape, nor even then, until the theodolite and rule proclaim their sums, that we become persuaded of their vast extent. Nay, figures themselves, to the generality of the world, convey but very imperfect conceptions of length, and breadth, and height, and girth: some more familiar representations are wanted to prove that a majestic tree, which is only in moderate proportion as an ornament to nature in the country, is really an enormous mass, and would be esteemed a large and glorious structure amongst the dwellings and palaces of men, in town. It is by comparing these forest kings with more homely objects, that we alone become acquainted with their correct capacity. When seeing an oak seven feet in diameter, its size arrests not our attention; we even pass with little thought such as hold ten or twelve feet across, or more, although the smallest of these has a width as great as the carriage-way of Fetter-lane, near Temple-bar, or of Bedford-street, in the Strand. Oaks could be named which would suffer two broad-wheeled waggons to pass each other on the kerf; the stub of one has been described on which two men could thresh, without incommoding each other; and this was not one of the largest size. The chapel-oak of Allouville, not half so large as our Cowthorpe tree, is of equal size with the famous Greendale oak, the trunk of which is pierced by a road, over which it forms a triumphal arch, higher by several inches

than the entrance to Westminster Abbey (the Poet's Postern), and under which men on horse-back pass, and through which carriages have been driven.

"The area occupied by the Cowthorpe oak, where the trunk enters the soil, exceeds the groundplot of that majestic column, of which an oak is confessed to have been the prototype, viz. Smeaton's Eddystone lighthouse. Sections of the stem of the one would, at several heights, nearly correspond with sections of the curved and cylindrical portions of the other. A chamber of equal extent, or larger than either of those in the lighthouse, might be hollowed out of its trunk; the natural caverns in Damery's and other oaks were larger than the chambers alluded to; and transverse slices of the stem would be considerably too large to floor any of them. Arthur's round table, which is a plank from such an oak, would form for it an entire roof, or projecting capital: indeed, upon this table there might be built a round church, as large as that of St. Lawrence before referred to, and space to spare; so that, if the extent of the sapwood were added, or the groundplot of the Cowthorpe oak were substituted for the table, there would be plenty of room, not only to build the parish church, but also to allow enough for a small cemetery beside. Indeed, with reference to this last-named oak, and also the tree-castles and tree-chapel, I would merely observe, that St. Bartholomew's, in the hamlet of Kingsland, between London and Hackney, which, besides the ordinary furniture of a place of religious worship, viz. desks for the minister and clerk, altar, staircase, stove, &c., has pews and seats for one hundred and twenty persons; upwards of one hundred have been in it at the same time; and some months since, myself made one of a congregation there assembled of nearly eighty persons, (seventy-six or seventy-seven were counted,) when the pews were by no means crowded, and plenty of room left vacant. Still this chapel is nearly nine feet less in width, and only seventeen inches more in length, than the groundplot of the Cowthorpe oak: in fact, the tree occupies upwards of thirty square feet more surface than does the chapel. Or, to take another illustration, in Little White Lion-street, Long-acre, the inspectors of a district visiting society found, some months ago, a house, the internal area of which is only twelve feet by twenty-four, (not half that of the Cowthorpe oak, which is twenty-six feet in diameter,) containing nine small rooms, in which there dwelt—i. e. eat, drank, and slept, and did all that poor mortality requires,—no less than eleven men, thirteen women, and sixty-nine children, making a total of ninety-three human beings, who have been crowded into less space than is enjoyed by a single tree, (Aménitate Quereæ)."

In this mode of illustration many points of history, philology, statistics, medicine, &c. are touched upon, giving a gossiping and agreeable colouring to details of the dryest technicality, and well calculated to renovate the flagging attention of the over-worked student.

Plantagenet. 3 vols. London: Macrone.
Villiers. 3 vols. London: Whittaker & Co.
Ernest Campbell. 3 vols. London: Cochran & Co.

We feel as though we were holding a levee; for, in addition to 'Plantagenet,' 'Villiers,' and 'Campbell,' we have 'Stanley' in the ante-chamber waiting for his audience, and 'The Prime Minister,' to be confessed and dismissed as briefly as possible.

To confine ourselves for the present, to these novels of aristocratic name, we may commence by assuring our readers, that, so

far as they may be received as specimens, "the order" has, of late days, improved. We have read through the two first works upon our list without weariness.

'Plantagenet,' indeed, claims somewhat more respect than we are accustomed to bestow upon the ephemeral fiction of the day. We were, early in the first volume, struck by certain peculiarities of tone and temperament—a high-bred carelessness of manner, as though the author wrote rather for his own relief, than to catch the attention of the public—a habit of dealing with generalities rather than details in his descriptions—a constant reference to one or two lofty and unworldly topics—a manifest pleasure in escaping from the regular current of narrative, to give utterance to feelings and opinions obviously *heart-felt*—a genial recognition of the importance and interests of literature—the graceful snatches of verse in the second and third volumes—the selectness of the mottoes—and these things, like the bride's little foot underneath her shrouding garment, in the nursery tale, have, we fancy, revealed to us the secret of the authorship. We believe that we could raise the mask which veils the writer, though our arm must be a long one to reach him in his foreign retreat; but, as our familiarity might be considered discourtesy, and as it is possible that we may be mistaken, we shall venture no further.

'Plantagenet' is a sort of Childe Harold story; it contains the confessions of the younger brother of a noble house, who is born proud, romantic, reserved, and poor—almost to penury, and has never, in his youth, learned that wholesome lesson, how to tame his own fiery spirit. A fiend in human form—a smooth, hypocritical clergyman—sows strife and jealousy between himself and his brother;—he loves, and the lady proves false, so that he enters the world, with a seared heart, and passions violent in proportion as they are concealed. Among other vicissitudes of fortune he becomes a soldier—a tutor in a nobleman's family—the secretary of a cabinet-minister—and lastly, after having acted these subordinate parts, plays the principal ones in his turn, and is once more received as an equal among the great ones of the earth. We will not tell how these changes are brought round, our object being merely to indicate the breadth of the field for psychological description furnished by the plot of the story. Nor can we enumerate the characters that sweep across the stage. Many of them are sketched with spirit; few, however, are finished pictures, except, perhaps, the *poco-curante* epicurean—the kind-hearted Exquisite, Delahaye. We must rest content with recommending 'Plantagenet' to our readers.

'Villiers' is cast in a more common mould, and is of a slighter *mind*, though, perhaps, more carefully executed. It is a bustling, cheerful, readable novel of the last century, and its hero is far more to our liking than many of the imprisoned or otherwise kept out of sight pieces of perfection, who are thrust into "the first man's part" in novels, for he is constantly on the stage, losing a fortune—idling in London—loving, and that most constantly, sweet Viola Myddleton, who is well worthy of the love of any pretty fellow—fighting at Dettingen (by the way, all the history in this novel is rather too much forced

in neck and heels,)—and, last of all, made happy, as he deserves to be, by royal command. The tale is one of plot, and its intricacies surpass our power, or will, or space, to unravel.

'Ernest Campbell' must be briefly dismissed, for, in all honesty, we find it the least worthy of the three. It is a tale of the rebellion of 45—with a little Scotch scenery and dialect—and a little love—and a good deal of coarse villainy (*vide* the Laird of Monniehills, who is utterly atrocious,)—and a hero who has a cloud on his birth—and a heroine all truth and simplicity—and an old Sycorax Nell Nimmo, as unlike the common run of old women as Crighton is to the generality of quiet country gentlemen—and one stout, faithful, Lancashire man, Jack Webster—*cum multis aliis*. The style is anything but what style should be—full of painful quips, and little scraps of fine writing—as far from nature as a citizen's grotto of broken china and Derbyshire spar is from the glaciers and caverns of Chamouni and Antiparos.

Statement of the Provision for the Poor, and of the Condition of the Labouring Classes, in a considerable portion of America and Europe. By Nassau W. Senior. London: Fellowes.

A Discourse delivered before the Benevolent Fraternity of Churches in Boston, April 9th, 1835. By W. E. Channing. London: Kennett.

Mr. Senior's volume is a reprint of the Preface to the Foreign Communications, published in the appendix to the Poor Law Report. It is a book wholly of facts, and of facts which will not admit of condensation. They form a striking feature in the general portraiture of the poor law question; and the volume will necessarily find its way into every well-appointed library.

We are not going to enter on this much-agitated question, on which most persons have now made up their minds, and that too the more determinately, because they have very generally done so without consulting the evidence. We cannot, however, refrain from expressing an opinion that another and a greater matter, than that between the advocates and opponents of poor laws, remains behind—namely, an examination of the *necessity* which is supposed to entail pauperism on society. That casual poverty could be prevented, even in the best constituted state, is assuredly an Utopian dream; but such poverty is not difficult to deal with, and may be met either by voluntary or by compulsory charity, as may seem best to the lawgiver. The poverty to which we allude, is that wholesale pestilence, which is now considered as a natural grade in society, and which makes perpetual calls on the legislator and the magistrate, to satisfy its ceaseless cravings.

Of this poverty we have a strong conviction, that in a really civilized community, in which substantial justice was administered to all classes of the people, it would not exist. We believe it to be the immediate consequence of undue privileges, of undue obstacles to the free circulation and natural reward of labour, the most sacred of all properties. In our own country, for instance, the entire course of our legislature has tended to

manufacture paupers, and to squeeze out of the pale of the national industry an increasing portion of the most helpless of the labouring population. The great scope of our statute law (not to go to remoter sources,) has been to favour accumulation, to promote monopoly, and to place manual labour in dependence on capital. Judging from experience, it appears to us, that Providence has imbued the species with so strong a disposition to labour, in order to overcome the difficulties with which nature has surrounded our means of subsistence, that it requires a very strong pressure to depress and beggar the many; and the history of modern commerce is one entire illustration of this truth.

Another evil, tending to the multiplication of pauperism, is, the unequal pressure of indirect taxation, which falling on articles of primary consumption, weighs the more heavily, in proportion to the narrowness of the individual's income. But the greatest cause of mischief is, the utter indifference long shown by the state to the moral education of the people; and we would refer, in proof, to the large proportion of the labouring population, who, whether they have or have not received doctrinal instruction, are utterly ignorant of the very elements of prudential wisdom, and are left at the mercy of their passions and appetites, to waste or misapply their resources, and to sink into wretchedness, pauperism, and perhaps criminality.

This view of the subject brings us at once to the Discourse delivered by Dr. Channing, at Boston, U.S., so lately as the 9th of April, on the anniversary of the Benevolent Fraternity of Churches. The association, so far as we understand its object, is to be considered as a sort of Home Missionary Society, and its object is the improvement of the moral state of the poor. Some passages in this beautiful discourse, will bring home the subject to the heart of the reader far more certainly than we could hope to do.

"It is the boast of our country, that the civil and political rights of every human being are secured; that impartial law watches alike over rich and poor. But man has other, and more important, than civil rights; and this is especially true of the poor. To him who owns nothing, what avails it that he lives in a country where property is inviolable; or what mighty boon is it to him, that every citizen is eligible to office, when his condition is an insuperable bar to promotion? To the poor, as to all men, moral rights are most important; the right to be regarded according to their nature, to be regarded, not as animals or material instruments, but as men; the right to be esteemed and honored, according to their fidelity to the moral law; and their right to whatever aids their fellow beings can offer for their moral improvement, for the growth of their highest power. These rights are founded on the supremacy of the moral nature, and until they are recognised the poor are deeply wronged.

"Our whole connexion with the poor should tend to awaken in them the consciousness of their moral powers and responsibility, and to raise them in spirit and hope above their lot. They should be aided to know themselves, by the estimate we form of them. They should be rescued from self-contempt, by seeing others impressed with the great purpose of their being. We may call the poor unfortunate, but never call them low. If faithful to their light, they stand among the high. They have no superiors, but in those who follow a brighter, purer light; and to withhold from them respect, is to defraud their vir-

tue of a support, which is among the most sacred rights of man. Are they morally fallen and lost. They should still learn, in our unaffected concern, the worth of the fallen soul, and learn that nothing seems to us so fearful as its degradation.

"This moral, spiritual interest in the poor, we should express and make effectual, by approaching them, by establishing an intercourse with them, as far as consists with other duties. We must live with them, not as another race, but as brethren. Our christian principles must work a new miracle, must exorcise and expel the spirit of caste. The outward distinctions of life must seem to us not 'a great gulf,' but superficial lines, which the chances of a day may blot out, and which are broad only to the narrow-minded. How can the educated and improved communicate themselves to their less favoured fellow-creatures, but by coming near them? The strength, happiness, and true civilization of a community are determined by nothing more, than by this fraternal union among all conditions of men. Without this a civil war virtually rages in a state. For the sake of rich as well as poor, there should be a mutual interest binding them together; there should be but one caste, that of humanity."

"The poor need, and must receive Moral and Religious Culture, such as they have never yet enjoyed. I say Culture; and I select this term, because it expresses the development of Inward Principles; and without this, nothing effectual can be done for rich or poor. Unhappily, religion has been, for the most part, taught to the poor mechanically, superficially, as a tradition. It has been imposed on them as a restraint, or a form; it has been addressed to the senses, or to the sensual imagination, and not to the higher principles. An outward hell, or an outward heaven, has too often been the highest motive brought to bear on their minds. But something more is wanted; a deeper work, an inward culture, the development of the reason, the conscience, the affections, and the moral will. True religion is a life unfolded within, not something forced on us from abroad. The poor man needs an elevating power within, to resist the depressing tendencies of his outward lot. Spiritual culture is the only effectual service we can send him, and let his misery plead with us to bestow it to the extent of our power.

"Had I time, I might show that moral and religious principles, as far as they are strengthened in the breasts of the poor, meet all the wants and evils which have now been portrayed; that they give them force to bear up against all the adverse circumstances of their lot, inspire them with self-respect, refine their manners, give impulse to their intellectual powers, open to them the springs of domestic peace, teach them to see without murmuring the superior enjoyments of others, and rescue them from the excesses into which multitudes are driven by destitution and despair."

In conclusion, we shall only observe, that until the legislature shall have redeemed its fiscal regulations from the bonds of ancient ignorance, and society shall be resolved to do justice to the poor, especially in the matter of education, no system of poor laws that can be devised will hold pauperism in check; whereas, justice being done in these particulars, the necessity for a complicated poor system will progressively disappear, and the subject will fall into abeyance and be forgotten.

Travels in Sicily and the Levant—[Wanderungen durch Sicilien und die Levante.]

(Second Notice.)

ARMED and prepared as we described them in our former notice, the travelling party set

forward upon their Sicilian tour. One of the first places visited was Trapani, where they found the whole population engaged either in fishing up coral, or in carving it, with great delicacy and beauty, into a vast variety of trinkets and ornaments; amongst others, if we are to believe an anonymous author, upon a fact so incredible, into *pearl necklaces*. However, this Trapani carving ought to be something beyond the common, inasmuch as it seems to be the only thing in the nature of the fine arts, cultivated with any sort of success, at the present day, in Sicily.

Hence our party proceeded to Marsala; and we conceive that the account of their visit to Mr. Woodhouse's establishment will be interesting to all drinkers of their pleasant and wholesome wine, recommended, we believe, even by the faculty in particular complaints, and by its price and quality recommending itself to those whose disease lies in their purses—a tolerably comprehensive class. We begin with the *sciocco* that accompanied our wanderers to Marsala.

As the evening approached we felt an unusual degree of lassitude, and were told "A *sciocco* is coming on." Accordingly, towards sunset an extraordinary spectacle was exhibited in the harbour. At the furthest southern horizon arose a thick white fog, which came nearer and nearer; the islands, the nearer rocks gradually disappeared, and now the heavy mass of air sank upon the town. Occasional gusts of wind whirled up the dust in the streets, but without dispersing the fog, and only augmenting the discomfort of this situation. Nevertheless we proceeded next morning southwards along the sea, which retained not a trace of its beautiful azure hue.

The high-foaming yellow waves were violently driven upon the shore, and a sharp south wind whistled amidst the low fan-palms, (*Chamaerops humilis*), with which the whole district is covered. No clouds were visible in the sky, but the sun shone through a reddish vapour, which seemed to remove the eastern mountain ridge to an unappreciable distance. We could not wonder at the violence of the wind, and the singular concomitant atmospheric phenomena, since it was evident that the African desert blast from the great Lahore, only somewhat tempered by its passage over the Mediterranean, blew directly upon us. Deeply did we feel its parching and depressing force, and were heartily rejoiced when, at one o'clock, we found ourselves at Marsala. The indescribable wretchedness of the public house, determined us to appeal to the hospitality of the well-known opulent wine-merchant Woodhouse, an Englishman, and we had good cause to congratulate ourselves upon having so done. We were received with genuine English cordiality; and I must confess, that after the long-continued privations of our journey, the various comforts of his household arrangements possessed double charms. The unpolluted vestibule, the clean wooden floors, the snow-white linen, the polished wine-glasses, the mirror-like steel, the splendid canopied beds,—what a contrast to all things of these kinds that we had seen for the last few weeks! One felt oneself actually transported to London, and the turbid *sciocco* sky might well pass for London coal-smoke. Woodhouse has been settled here for many years, and, by various admixtures, prepares the coarse Sicilian wines for northern, more especially for English palates. Thus improved, they bear the voyage well. * * *

The spacious establishments, through which the master of the house led us, all bore the stamp of the enlarged spirit of British commerce, and might well serve as a pattern to the inert Sici-

lians, of the mode in which they must proceed, should it ever occur to them to make any use of their indigenous treasures. The cheerful dwelling-house, situated south of the town, is surrounded by various buildings adapted to the preparation and packing of the wine. Workshops, cart sheds, and stables, cottages for labourers, coopers, &c. occupy several courtyards; and the whole of this little town is enclosed by a pretty high wall, not of the usual, negligently-built Sicilian kind, of stones gathered from the fields and piled up one upon another—but plastered and whitewashed. One gate opens towards the country, another towards the sea, to which descends a very fair road of some thousand paces in length, and, as the neighbourhood affords no tolerable harbour in which vessels may load with any sort of safety, Woodhouse has run out into the sea a little pier of his own, which gives sufficient protection to a couple of ships. All these very considerable establishments have raised the Sicilian estimate of his wealth to something perfectly fabulous. The multitude of people supported by his manufacture of wine, as it may well be called, and the abundant alms which his liberality distributes amongst the poor, cause him to be revered like a monarch throughout the district.

The first place reached after Marsala, is Mazzara, a name now likewise known in the wine trade, where our traveller's entertainment differs in the *materiel*, if not in spirit, from Mr. Woodhouse's.

Here, as there was not a public house in the whole place, we made the first use of our recommendations to the clergy, and passed the night in a Franciscan cloister. The good-will of the friars was indisputable, but not less sensible was their total want of all means for the entertainment of strangers, whence we argued the rarity of such visits. The good brothers were especially inquisitive concerning the object and manner of our journey, and, not even whilst our supper was being rapidly cooked, and as rapidly devoured, could they forbear from questions about Germany and its produce, which proved the profound ignorance of the inquirers. The Father Superior rivalled his subordinates in cross-questionings, at which it was hard to suppress laughter.

Can we review a Sicilian tour and not ascend Mount *Ætna*? But every tourist has both ascended *Ætna* and described his ascent: moreover, *Ætna* is apt to be lethargic, and was actually asleep when our wanderers visited the brink of the crater. These reasons induce us to extract, in preference, his trip to the less known, and ever restless, *Stromboli*:—

On account of the still increasing heat, which this year is distressing even to the natives, we took the benefit of night for our excursion. We left Messina in the evening. * *

By daybreak we reached Melazzo, a small town due west from Messina, containing about 6000 inhabitants, and having a good roadstead. A narrow tongue of waste land runs right out from the town, several miles into the sea, ending in Capo Bianco, Sicily's northernmost point, which is difficult to double, and received its name from its dazzlingly white chalk-rock. A small eight-oared coasting *speronaro*, was hired at a reasonable price, and we embarked immediately after dinner. The heat was oppressive, and not a breath stirred, either to swell our sails, or to cool our lungs. * * * By the help of our oars we moved slowly onward, saw Vulcana and Lipari rise out of the waves to our left, in the rosy glow of the setting sun; and reached *Stromboli* next morning, after an inconveniently passed, but not cold night. The island starts up out of the sea, like a steep cone, abrupt and sharp-pointed, looking from a distance too steep

to be habitable. To the east, however, the precipitous declivity is somewhat easier; there a few fishermen's huts, readily put together of black lumps of lava and other volcanic productions, and covered with coarse mats, stand upon the shore; higher up is a pleasant village, St. Bartolommeo, with its church shrouded in vineyards and mulberry plantations. The population of the island amounts to 2000 souls. * * * Vessels are here usually, after the old Greek fashion, drawn up upon the shore at night, and supported by beams of wood.

As the sun had but just risen when we arrived, we thought to avail ourselves of the coolness of morning to climb the volcano, the summit of which, is said to be 2½ miles from the coast. But we had over-rated our powers after two sleepless nights, and the heat of the preceding day. * * * One after another turned back. * * * We resolved to coast round the island northward towards evening, in order to view the fiery phenomena by night; and meanwhile, we settled ourselves in a vine-covered harbour, which serves our friendly host in the additional capacity of a cow-house. Whilst Joseph was exerting his culinary talents upon our hardly collected provisions, we bathed in the sea, drew, and did justice to the delicious Malmsey, which rivals the Syracusan wine in strength and sweetness. This the island produces so abundantly, that not only is much annually sent to Lipari, but quantities of grapes are dried, which are known to commerce as *passola* and *passolina*, or large and small raisins. Simple as the process is, even this has its art and mystery, by which some sorts are superior to others. Our vineyard owner told us, that the juice in the berries must ferment before it will become sweet; whence, at one time of the spring, all the grapes hung up to dry are sour, and if the rooms are not then sufficiently ventilated, the whole stock spoils, never acquiring the proper sweetness. * * *

After sunset we rowed northward. * * * At length we were round the last point, and beheld a spectacle unique in its kind, close to us. From the dark gulph, at intervals of about two minutes, arose a splendid sheaf of fire, which opened on high like a fan, and then rattled down the mountain sides like a rain of burning stones; a large part of the mass evidently fell back into the crater; but much was hurled forth, reached the sea at a mighty bound, and was therein quenched, hissing like molten lead. The smaller masses remained lying on the edge of the abyss, immediately covered by new layers. This restlessly continuous eruption has filled up all the gullies and hollows upon the mountain side, and an uniformly level slope, of ashes and blocks of lava, descends from the crater to the sea. But as the greater number of fragments nevertheless remain close to the crater, a large mass of stones quickly accumulates, occasioning from time to time an avalanche which hurries with a thundering noise into the sea. If the moment of ejection was that of the more striking effect, when its lightnings ruddled all the adjacent rocky crags, the tranquil intervals were scarcely less majestic.

The wanderer was now impatient to reach Malta, as the first stage to Egypt, upon which occasion he happily illustrates the old adage of "the more haste the worse speed." Refusing to wait for the regular packet-boat, he committed himself to Sicilian mariners, in whose unclean and uncomfortable vessel, after divers stoppages for cargo and other annoyances, he sailed into the harbour of Citta-Valetta, to see the rejected packet-boat quietly lying at anchor there.

We do not find much of interest in his account of Malta; and shall, therefore, bid the wanderer farewell, until he shall give us his *Levant Wanderings*.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Shipwrecks and Disasters at Sea; second series. 2 vols.—There is, perhaps, no class of reading more popular with the young and the imaginative, than that which tells of "moving accidents by flood and field." If the romance of real life almost always exceeds the greatest daring of fictitious narrative, the life of a sailor is, beyond all others, an unbroken scene of adventure and excitement. The history of shipwrecks, however, is the theme which offers this species of attraction in the highest possible degree: whether it is perused under the epicurean feeling of the "*suave mari magno*," or under that more inexplicable impulse, which, like the fascination of the serpent, fixes the gaze on all we most fear, it is seized upon with delight by gentle and simple, by the learned and the unlearned, by the landsman and the seaman; and it is not put down till the last page of doubt, horror, and despair, or of unlooked-for and almost miraculous preservation, is fairly exhausted. We know not how far this sort of reading may be considered as affording a healthy stimulant; but its influence on the sanguine disposition of youth seems rather to encourage than repress the spirit of enterprise; and we know of no books of mere amusement more calculated to enlarge the conceptions of the reader, as to the realities of this "work-a-day world," or to make evident the power which is latent in the human breast, to do and to suffer, at the call of duty, or under the pressure of danger.—Those who are acquainted with the first series of these narratives, will feel satisfied that, as far as depends on the industry of the collector, the present publication will not be deficient in any merit that belongs to the subject.

An Attempt to determine the exact Character of Elizabethan Architecture, illustrated by Parallels of Dorton House, Hatfield, Longleat and Wollaton, in England, and the Palazzo della Cancelleria, at Rome, by James Hakewill.—Nothing could have been more apropos than the publication of this unpretending little volume, which contains in its twenty pages much good sense, and an able sketch of the introduction of Italian architecture into England, which was, as our author observes, "founded on the 'cinque cento' style, and with no trace of the Gothic, which it superseded." We wonder whether the committee of the two houses of Parliament were aware of this fact, and that in allowing the architects, who may send in designs, the range of Gothic and Elizabethan, they intended to include a style, "the elements of which are entirely drawn from Roman examples, and every moulding of which is essentially Roman in its curvature;" we should think not, and would therefore advise them to consult this work, which is an attempt to redeem that which was good in the style of the period from the incongruities which disfigured it under James I., and by tracing its history to show that "the pure Elizabethan is the *cinque cento* of Italy, unmingled with Gothic forms and Gothic ornaments." The illustrations are selected with good taste, and excellently engraved in outline.

Historical Sketch of the Art of Sculpture in Wood, by Robert Folkstone Williams.—If this book were meant as a lengthened advertisement of the Brustolini Exhibition, or a puff preliminary to the writer's own forthcoming quarto, it would be intelligible enough: but of what other use a sketch so very slight and superficial can be, on such a subject, we profess ourselves unable to divine. None but antiquarians and thorough virtuosi would give a fig's end for any information about the matter, and to them such a dish of skimmed milk is far too meagre a banquet. We hope the author, in his "more elaborate work" projected, will prove that this sketch is not what he calls it, "a compendium of the most interesting information that can be

acquired on the subject;" for if the quaintness be so insipid, what can be expected from its dilution? We know that the subject does contain details of much and multifarious import to the Arts, nor do we despair of enthusiasm like our author's bringing home the treasure, if he will hunt for it as a bee instead of a butterfly.

Tales of the Rhenish Chivalry, founded on the Records of History and Tradition, by Edward P. Turnerelli.

The Rhine! the Rhine! be blessings on the Rhine.

So has many a poet, romancer, and artist, (to say nothing of wine drinkers,) good cause to sing—its name comes over us like a charm, and worn out as are its legends of the Mouse-Tower, and the Lurley-berg—and the castles which crown its over-hanging rocks, we are somehow or other, not indisposed to listen to them "again and yet again;" we love them like old melodies, with which even the hand organs in the streets fail to disgust us. In the volume before us a few are told pleasantly, because told with good faith; we have the Legend of 'Gisela,' a goblin dream in the Castle of Windeck; the 'Tale of the Lurley-fels;' the 'Siege of Hohenkraken,' and one or two other gleanings from the sheaves of old romance; and the book altogether may be resorted to by those who do not precisely know what to do with an hour of the dog-days.

Of the Origin of Universities and Academical Degrees, by Henry Malden, Professor of Greek in the University of London.—Although calculated for a temporary purpose, the volume, small and unpretending as it is, will probably find a permanent place in libraries, as containing in a narrow compass much historical matter, not very generally known even within the walls of the universities themselves. The views which the author has taken, are those of the writer of the article on the same subject published in the *Edinburgh Review*. His object is to prove that Universities were, in their origin, purely educational.

Letters of Major Downing.—These humorous letters appeared originally in the *New York Daily Advertiser*. We received a copy as soon as they were collected into a volume; but we thought then, and think still, that they are too local in their wit and point to be generally appreciated in England. Mr. Murray, however, was of a different opinion, and the call for a second edition seems to justify his judgment in reprinting them. They are generally understood to have been written by one of the principal merchants at New York, whose wife is, moreover, the *bel esprit* of republican society.

Political Writings of W. E. Channing, D.D.—We have had occasion already to speak of this distinguished writer, and have little to add on the present republication. It is justly observed, in the preface, that "no apology is requisite on introducing to the public a cheap edition of these essays." The eminent ability of the writer alone would, indeed, justify it; but, at this moment, the works of a divine, who sees in Christianity, what it is, a principle of human liberty, and who strives to render religion what it should be, a herald of "peace on earth, and good-will towards man," cannot but be welcome. We recommend particularly the discourses on war. If there be anything in the present aspect of European politics to inspire hope in the hearts of good men, it is the manifest tendency of nations to conspire to put down that disgrace to human nature, and scandal to Christianity. It is now beginning to be understood, that war is an unmitigated evil; that it wastes the resources, and impedes the social improvement of the species. To the extension and consolidation of this wholesome conviction, Dr. Channing's discourses will powerfully contribute.

Remarks on the Character ascribed by Col Napier to the late Rt. Hon. Spencer Perceval, by D. M. Perceval, Esq.—A very able argument, resting on facts—and truly admirable for tone and temper—a model for controversialists. We make special mention of this, in consequence of the correspondence which has since taken place between the parties.

Blackie's Popular Encyclopædia. Part V.—This excellent publication is continued with the same spirit and ability, displayed at its commencement: in the present part there are several very able articles, among which, those on the history and literature of England and France; on Fever, Gas-lights, Geology, and George IV., deserve to be specially noticed.

A Voice from the Dormitory.—This, in spite of its far-fetched title, is a praiseworthy and profitable collection of serious poetry—and not, as is too often the case with such miscellanies, the spoil of bare-faced robbery of contemporary authors. It contains Young's 'Last Day,' and Maxwell's 'Coronet,' Milton's glorious Christmas Hymn; some of Herbert's quaint lyrics, others by Sir Philip Sidney, Sandys and Crashaw, and several by the editor, which, if inferior to those in whose company they appear, as undoubtedly they are, harmonize not unpleasantly with them.

A Lady's Gift; or, Woman as she ought to be, by Jane Kinderley Sanford, author of 'The Stoic.'—This, as may be gathered from its title, is a lesson delivered in the form of a story, by an amiable and accomplished woman; and as a present for the sex, we can, to a certain degree, recommend it. We say, a certain degree, because some of Mrs. Sanford's opinions are, we think, carried to the extreme.

The Student's Cabinet Library of Useful Tracts. No. I. to IV.—Four useful tracts; the first contains judicious directions respecting the precautions by which students may avoid those injuries to the sight, produced by reading without a due attention to the management of light and shade; the second treats of the connexion between geology and natural religion; the third is a reprint of Channing's celebrated essay on 'National Literature;' and the fourth is an interesting account of the literature of Modern Greece.

On the Preservation of Oil Paintings, by an Artist.—This is a very silly little book. After two or three pages on his subject, the preserver of paintings sets off to a Life of Vandyck, which, with extracts and quotations about every other artist or protector of artists his reading allows him to scramble at, makes up three-fourths of his volume. It is as if some ship-carpenter, in a treatise on the prevention of dry-rot, were to insert the Life of Lord Nelson, with anecdotes from the 'British Admirals.'

The Artist, or Young Ladies' Instructor, by B. F. Gandee.—We have no objection to young ladies accomplishing themselves in 'Grecian Painting, &c.' which this prettily bound and printed volume professes to teach. Emulating the Greeks is about as innocent an occupation as artistic misses could be engaged in; and what with its nice lithograph pictures, Mr. Gandee's book will go, perhaps, as far as any other towards attaining the desired object. Directions for painting screens, card-racks, &c. judiciously follow up the classic department, and complete the circle of study.

Singing Academy Prospectus; with the Origin of the Spanish Guitar, &c. by Signor Anelli.—Although the guitar never enabled us to "explore the very depths of Parnassus, and to send our Pegasus above the incommensurable vacuum, to the ever-splendid Olympium," as we are told it does (p. 15.) in the hands of Signor Anelli, we hold it, when confined to its proper office, of a dependent adjunct to the voice, to be a useful and agreeable instrument. The Signor, in

ORIGINAL PAPERS

A DAY-DREAM AT TINTAGEL.

BY WILLIAM HOWITT.

DURING the whole time I had been wandering in Cornwall, the weather had been most glorious. Now and then, indeed, the southerly wind brought up from the sea one of those thick fogs that wrap up everything in a moment, and make some of the dreary scenes of that wild country tenfold more dreary; every object being enlarged, and yet only dimly described through it, while the close stifling heat of it is intense,—you seem to walk about in a vapour-bath at a high temperature, and your clothes are as thoroughly saturated with wet as if you had been dipped in the ocean. Now and then this had been the case, but only for a short time: the wind veered to another point, and the whole was swept away; driving over the plains like smoke; you might almost suppose there was a city on fire beneath it; and rolling along the sides of the bare hills and high craggy coasts in a style that might rejoice the eye of the painter and the poet. It had been fine, but this morning seemed to rise as if it would outshine all its forerunners. The sun ascended into a sky of cloudless and soul-inspiring azure; a western breeze came with that fluttering freshness which tells you it comes from the ocean: the dew lay in glittering drops on the sides of the green hills on each hand, and the lark was high in heaven overhead, sending forth all the fulness of the heart's rejoicing, which mine endeavoured to express in vain.

I was fast approaching the western coast, and one of those deep wild valleys which, in so many places, run down from the mainland to the seashore, gashes cut, as it were, by some giant hand in the days of the earth's infancy, to give a speedy access to the ocean, which you might have otherwise sought in vain amongst craggy hills and continuous precipices, now suddenly opened before me, and gave me, at once, sight of the magnificent Atlantic, flashing and rolling in the morning sun, and the lofty promontory and dark mouldering ruins I was in search of. I descended the ravine by its narrow rocky road. The polypody and hartstongue hung in long luxuriant greenness on the mossy acclivity at my right, the small wild rose blooming amongst them; on the left ran, dashing and murmuring, a clear little torrent, soon intercepted by a picturesque old mill stuck in a nook of the hollow below me, whose large overshot wheel sent the water splashing and spattering down into a rocky basin beneath. I stepped across this little stream, and wound along a path like a sheep-track up the steep side of the lofty hill, on which stood the old palace. What a magnificent scene was here! The ruins of that ancient place were visible over an extent that gave ample evidence of an abode befitting an old British king; and their site was one worthy of the great hero of romance, the morning star of chivalry, and the theme of a thousand minstrel harps, ringing in hall and bower, diffusing love and martial daring in the sound. They occupied the hill on which I stood, and a high-towering and rock-ridged promontory, whose dark tremendous precipices frowned awfully over the sea. Arches and flights of steps cut in the native rock remain, and walls based on the crags as they protrude themselves from the ground, some at one elevation, and some at another, and inclosing wide areas which once were royal rooms, but are now carpeted with the softest turf; where the goat, or the mountain sheep, grazes, or seeks shelter from the noon sun and the ocean wind, and where the children from the mill come up and pursue their solitary sports, build mimic castles with the fallen stones of the dwelling of ancient kings, and inclose paddocks and gardens with rows of them. Some of these I put into my knapsack, for I would not disturb a single stone which time had

yet left in the place where the builder laid it many an age ago. Other battlemented walls, which constituted the outworks and fortifications, run winding here and there up the steeps, and along the strips of green turf, apparently natural terraces, on the heights of the promontory; and, between the two hills, show themselves the massy foundation of the bridge which connected that part of the royal castle on the promontory with that on the mainland. This promontory is now called the island, because the mighty Atlantic has nearly succeeded by its perpetual attacks, century after century, with all the force of tides and tempests, in severing it entirely from the mainland. In stormy weather it rushes through the opening with a terrible roar and concussion; and it has, in fact, made such an inroad between the island and the castle hill, as to have formed a large cove, surrounded by stupendous precipices, into which it pours, even at neap tides, with a glorious rage, and most magnificent sound. It has carried away, in its aggression, half of the castle itself, and has left the other half aloft on the edge of a sheer descent of several hundred feet, awaiting its gradual destruction from the everlasting onset of the waves. The great circular tower—the one where we may suppose the round table to have stood, has thus fallen half into the gulph, and has half yet standing to show awhile longer, by its lofty walls and ample dimensions, what a noble banquetting-room for one hundred and thirty heroes, and a due proportion of ladies fair, it must have been.

I was standing on the edge of this dizzy height, listening to the solemn roar of the sea, as it rolled its host of waves into the cove, white as a sea of milk, amongst the square masses of rock scattered over its bottom, and to the cries of the choughs, or red-legged crows, that soared and darted about over this wild scene of agitated waters, and amongst the lofty cliffs, with an evident and intense delight, that one well might envy, and uttering their quaint, croaking cry of, "choo, choo," whence they derive their name, with never-ceasing din. I was listening thus, and letting my eyes wander right and left, where I still beheld only craggy downs, dun precipices, up which the waters were leaping, white as snow, and streaming down again slowly, as if they clung to the rocks in love, in streaks as of molten silver, and the great ocean itself, with its everlasting life of motion and of sound—its breezy heart-strengthening freshness—its far-off sails—and its shoreward cries of many a wild-voiced bird. I was standing thus occupied, when a troop of lads came merrily up the hill. When they saw me, there was a moment's silence. "Well, my lads," said I, "don't let me hinder your sport. I know what you are after; you mean to visit the nests of the terns and choughs, if you don't break your necks first." They looked at each other and laughed. "What hill do you call this?"—"Hill, Sir? Oh! its Tintagel, Sir."—"Tintagel! Well, and what old castle is this, then?"—"Castle, Sir? its Prince Arthur's castle!"—"Prince Arthur's castle! and who was Prince Arthur?" The lads seemed sharp lads enough; they had sparkling eyes, faces full of intelligence: they were lads full of activity and spirit, and yet they looked at one another with a funny kind of wonder. It was a question they had evidently never had put to them. The fame of Prince Arthur was a thing supposed to be so perfectly a commonplace, that nobody ever thought of asking about it; and, therefore, the boys were unprovided with an answer. They were learned in a far different lore; in the ways and means of coming at the retreats of terns, smews, choughs, and their airy and cliff-haunting fellows. "Prince Arthur," at length said one of them, "why we don't know nothing about him, only as he was a king."—"A king! ay, but when could that be? it can't have been of late; they have all been Georges and

his prospectus, puts forth some just, though rather loosely stated remarks on the art of singing, which might not be lost upon persons of greater musical note than the young ladies seeking instruction at Clifton, for whose use it was, we presume, especially written. The pamphlet is in truth a professional advertisement.

'The Foundling Hospital Vindicated, by the Rev. Charles Lawson.'—The policy or impolicy of charitable institutions like the Foundling Hospital, is a subject open to discussion—Sir Francis Head objects, and Mr. Lawson replies. From the preliminary eight pages of this little brochure, we anticipated that Sir F. Head had made some gross, if not wilful, mis-statements respecting the charity; but Mr. Lawson has proved only, that he (Mr. Lawson) has no sufficient apology for writing in so fierce and angry a spirit.

'Discourses and Letters, by the late Rev. J. Martin.'—This publication is a monument to the memory of an exemplary minister of the Church of Scotland, cut off in the prime of manhood. Few will read these remains without feeling, that had his life been spared, he would have ranked with the first theologians of our day.

'The Philosophy of Unbelief.'—This defence of revealed religion, notwithstanding its quaint title, merits high praise; the author shows great skill in investigating the metaphysical principles on which scepticism is based, and he has placed in a new and strong light, the leading laws of moral evidence.

'Swell's Sermons.'—These sermons were preached in the chapel of Exeter College, and contain much useful advice to young men, about to enter on the stage of public life.

'Le Cosmopolite, Nos. I.—IV.'—This is a new French Journal published in London, to which, in return for the compliment paid to the *Athenæum* in the first number, we are bound to wish all possible success. Fortunately, we are not called on to calculate the chances in its favour; for in truth, whatever may be its merit, a French paper dependent on an English sale, appears to us a very hazardous venture.

'Voyage en Orient, par A. De Lamartine. 2 vols.'—This is a cheap and beautiful London reprint, and contains the four volumes of the Paris edition compressed into two. The work is announced as the first of a series of French standard works: that is to say, it is intended to republish in London in the same condensed form, and at an equally reduced price, an edition of every work of any fame or reputation, so soon as by possibility a single copy can be obtained from Paris. Now, without intending to put the argument offensively, as against the present parties, can any proceeding be more manifestly unjust, or morally more fraudulent? We have been told, that exposure is sufficient to put a stop to such practices. This is mere moonshine; that multifarious entity, the public, cares very little about questions of abstract justice; and the love of a bargain is, we fear, paramount over all moral considerations, so long as punishment does not follow detection. The only appeal is to the legislature: at present the literary property of all Europe is at the mercy of whoever chooses to attack it, out of the narrow limit of the local law. We are persuaded, that continental nations would most willingly co-operate with us, in any attempt to afford protection to literary men. The evil of the present system is felt to be so serious in Germany, that the Diet of the Confederation has come to the following resolution, "that literary piracy is to be prohibited in all the States of the Confederation, and literary property to be regulated and protected on uniform principles." Why do not the ministers of England and France propose at once to become parties to the agreement? The House of Commons would, we are certain, unanimously consent to so just and beneficial a measure.

Williams lately."—"Oh! Lord bless you, Sir! this castle was built before we were born!" and with that most luminous solution of the difficulty, they scampered off, over crag, ruin, and green slope, down to the ravine, and up the opposite winding track to the top of the island, and soon were out of sight in eager pursuit of their object.

Built before you were born! Ay, sure enough, my light-hearted lads, by many a long century, if minstrels and chroniclers say true—thirteen at least—more ages than you have seen years over your heads. And look! everything around seems to say, that the old minstrels and chroniclers were right. There is an air of antiquity on the very hills themselves; they are high and bare to the breezes of heaven and the ocean: the rocks protrude from their green sides, grey with the stains of centuries—the ravages which the sea has committed on the land have not been effected in any trivial time—and the venerable walls of Tintagel have every character of an ancient and primitive masonry. They are built of the micaceous slate on which they stand; a grey and sparkling substance that, if found in blocks, might give a beautiful aspect to a building, but existing in such thin lamina—many not above a few inches thick—one cannot but equally wonder at the patience with which those old builders piled them up, and at their not resorting to those endless blocks of harder stone that lie scattered over the hills of the neighbourhood. I know not whether Warton ever saw the place, but he gives you a very good idea of it in his 'Grave of King Arthur'—

O'er Cornwall's cliffs the tempest roared,
High the screaming sea-mew soared;
On Tintagel's topmost tower
Darksome fell the sleet shower;
Round the rough castle shrilly sang
The whirling blast, and wildly flung
On each tall rampart's thundering side
The surges of the tumbling tide.

Yes! you may well imagine it to have been a "rough castle" of a very ancient day; and yet you may as readily imagine it too in its first estate—in its majestic situation, with its walls of fresh silvery stone, with all its ample towers and halls, courts and ramparts, offices and gardens, to have stood a stately object of barbaric splendour. I threw myself with these thoughts on the warm green turf, leaning against a great block of stone on the edge of the gulph, and gazed on the strange scene. As the sound of the billows came up from below, and the cliffs stood around in their dark solemn grandeur, I gradually lost sight of the actual place, and was gone into the very land and times of old Romance. The Palace of Tintagel was no longer a ruin; it stood before me in that barbaric splendour I had only before supposed. There it was in all its amplitude, with all its bastions and battlements, its towers and massy archways, dark, yet glittering in the sun with a metallic lustre. The porter stood by its gate; the warder paced its highest turret, beholding, with watchful glance, sea and land: guards walked to and fro on its great drawbridge, their battle-axes flashing in the morning beams as they turned; pennons were streaming on every tower, and war-steeds were heard neighing in their stalls. There was a sound and a stir of life. Where I had seen before the bare green turf, I now saw knights jousting for pastime in the tilt-yard; where the sea had rolled, I beheld a fair garden, the very model of that of the king's daughter of Hungarie.

— A garden that was full gay:
And in the garden, as I ween,
Was an arbour fair and green;
And in the arbour was a tree,
No fairer in the world might be.
The tree it was of cypress,
The first tree that Jesus chose.
The southernwood and spicemore,
The red-rose and the lily-flower;
The box, the beech, and the laurel-tree,
The date, also the damask;
The filberts hanging to the ground,
The fig-tree, and the maple round;

And other trees there many a one,
The pyany, poplar, and the plane,
With broad branches all about,
Within the arbour and without.
On every branch sate birds three
Singing with great melody.
And in this arbour sate a noble dame with a bevy
Of high-born damsels, whom she
taught to sew and mark
All manner of silken work
—Taught them curtesy and thence,
Gold and silk for to sew;

and all nurture and goodly usages of hall and bower. Many a young knight and damsel paced the pleasant garden walks in high discourse or merriment, and other knights "in alleys cool" were playing at "the bowls."

But the bugle blew; the great portcullis went up with a jar; there was a sound of horns, a clatter of horses' hoofs on the hard pavement, a cry of hounds, and forth issued from the castle court the most glorious pageant that the eye could look upon. It was no other than King Arthur, Queen Geneva, and a hundred knights and dames equipped and mounted for the chase. Oh! for some old minstrel to tell us all their names, and place their beauty and bravery all before us! There they went, those famous warriors of the table round, on their strong steeds, the fairest dames on earth on their ambling jennets of Spain, with their mantles of green, and purple, and azure, fluttering in the breeze and flashing in the sun. There they went—that noble, stalwart, and magnanimous Arthur at their head, wearing his helmet-crown as he was wont in battle; that monarch of mighty fame, but mild and open countenance, who at fifteen had brought all Britain from uproar to peace—expelled the Saxons—conquered Scotland, and afterwards Ireland, Denmark, Norway, Iceland, Gothland, and Swethland, and took captive their kings; killed the brave Froll, and the grim giant Dynabus; slew five Paynim monarchs, the Grecian Emperor, and put to flight Lucius the Emperor of Rome, whither he afterwards went himself, and was crowned by all the cardinals. There he rode with king Ban-Booght and king Bos, and the brave and loving friends Sir Gawain and Sir Yvain.

Sir Lancelot, Sir Stephen bold,
They rode with them that day,
And foremost of the company
There rode the steward Kaye.
So did Sir Banier and Sir Bore,
And eke Sir Garrat gentle;
Sir Tristram, too, that keen knight,
To the forest fresh and green.

They had hounds and spears for stag and boar; hawks for the heron, and greyhounds in leashes for the hare. They went on over hill and dale, beneath the boughs of the greenwood. Bright was the sun, fair the breeze, sweet the sound of the bugle and the chiding of the hounds, gladsome the sight of that gallant company, in full career after the flying hart, in the far-off forest.

At length I saw them arrive in an open glade, where stood a rich pavilion; and the ladies alighted, with certain of the younger knights and pages, and there they found meats and wines ready prepared for them; and then some stretched themselves beneath the greenwood boughs, and listened to the lays of minstrels, and some disposed themselves to dance in the open glade, while Arthur and his stout compeers went on into the deep forests and rough holts to chase the boar.

Anon, I saw stags and grizzly tusked boars, laid across steeds, and borne towards the castle by serving men; and I turned thither again my own regards. I saw an old man come out of the gate, and seat himself on a stone seat under the southern wall of the castle. He was clad in the tawny robe of the minstrel; his harp was slung in a band of gold embroidery before him; his white beard spread on his breast, and his frame was feeble with excessive age. It was the king

† Good manners.

of the minstrels—the friend and companion of Uther Pendragon. I sate down on a piece of rock opposite, and asked the venerable man of the days of Uther—of the high adventures of his own generation, and of those swarthy eastern people, whose galleys lay in almost every creek and bay, and whose followers explored the hills and the rivers for tin and brass. But anon, the royal troop came hurrying back. There was dismounting and arraying in chamber and bower—washing and sitting down to meat. There sate that illustrious company, at that illustrious board, where every place was the place of honour, and all precedence and jealousy were banished. There sate the noble Arthur—those warriors whose fame had gone through the whole world—that splendid Geneva, whose beauty was so queenly and dazzling that they who looked on her could scarcely remember her faults—and many a lady whose embroidered bodice and jewelled tiara the minstrels have described in such glowing terms; and who, they declared, were "bright as blossom on breeze."

And white they were as the lily in May,
Or the snow that snoweth on winter's day.

The torches cast their flickering light on the storied arras around—the harps went merrily—the sewers, in their scarlet tunics, bound with a broad belt embroidered with zigzag lace, with chaplets on their heads, set before the guests venison, and flesh of the boar, and wild fowl, and

Wine of Greke and muscadell,
With clare, pycment and Rochell.

Royal was the cheer, whether the court lay at Carlisle, Caerleon, Camelot, or Tintagel; for Arthur was bounteous in hall as mighty in battle.

But to tell all the palpable and living visions that came before me would be endless. Now I seemed to be amongst that little knot of knights on that memorable day when they sate in the hall before the door of the king as he took his siesta, and the queen came and sate down with them, and heard the adventures of Sir Calgaveance at the enchanted fountain in the forest, with its basin and silver chain, which she made him repeat to Arthur; and whence arose Sir Gawain's own exploit there, and all his future troubles. Now I seemed to see the good Lunet that so often befriended him, come

On her Jennette of Spayne that ben so white,
Trapped to the ground with velvet bright,
to solicit aid for her lady mistress; and now, I beheld the lady Tryamour, as she rode into the palace court to vindicate the fame of Sir Launfall, a vision of beauty and splendour that amazed them all, with her mantle that she let fall, that the better might be seen her bewitching figure, her grey palfrey, her gorgeous saddle, the very jewel upon whose pommel was worth the best carldom in Lombardy—her falcon on her hand, and her two white greyhounds running at her side.

A glorious land was that old land of romance. Its geography was none of the clearest, yet it was a land of most facile communication—knights and damsels were often lost for a time in its forests and wildernesses, but none for ever. They were sure to turn up some day. What a happy land was that in which Babylon, Jerusalem, Rome, France, England, and fairly land to boot, were all within the range of its travellers, and all so accessible; and were visited by such unimaginable means—hyppogriffs, winged horses, charmed couches, and, perhaps better than all, the boat Guingelot of Sir Wade;—a land in which the daughters of emperors were always so beautiful, and where, however tried and persecuted virtue might be, miracles had not ceased, and were not withheld by a bountiful providence from eventually crowning it with felicity. All there was poetical and picturesque. The generous youth aspired to distinction by honourable means, and he never found any lack of tyrants,

giants, or dragons to contend with; nor of beautiful dames to bestow themselves and their ample domains upon him. Vast and fair were its forests—we love all forests now, because they remind us of them—venerable its hermits; and never were such noble men, or fair and gorgeously-arrayed dames—nor such minstrels to celebrate them. Blessed is he that can even now escape, if but for an hour, into it. It can be but an hour—it will fade speedily away—it passed away from me as I sat on the cliff of Tintagel; there was nothing left but the bare hill, the crumbling ruins, and the sea.

[To be continued.]

CAFFRE WAR.

[The following letter, among the latest arrivals, is not only interesting for the news it brings of the termination of the war, but as containing a clever sketch, by a well-known writer, of the campaign. From the conclusion, it appears that Capt. Alexander hopes shortly to start for Delagoa Bay, in furtherance of the immediate object with which he left this country. From other sources of information, we are enabled to state, that, no sooner was the American government informed that the Portuguese had been driven from that settlement, than they fitted out an expedition which has already arrived at, and taken possession of it.]

Camp, Izolo, a Branch of the Somo, Kei, April 30, 1835.

I have advanced thus far into Caffreland, being the centre of Hinza's territory, the supreme Inkosi Inkoolo, or King of the Amakosa; and, as we have now come to a very interesting epoch in the war, proceed shortly to detail some of the principal events since its commencement.

As I before noticed, the first operation against the enemy took place in the bush of the Great Fish River at Trumpeter Drift, where the tribes of Eno, Macomo, Tyrlee, &c., had assembled for a second invasion of the colony, and to attempt to destroy Graham's Town, the capital of Albany. At Trumpeter Drift there are wooded hills of 200 or 300 feet elevation, in the kloofs or ravines of which large bodies of Caffres had collected, with cattle for their support: Colonel Smith, the second in command, went from Graham's Town with a considerable force of regular infantry (72nd and 75th regiments), burghers, English and Dutch, Mounted Rifles (Hottentots), and Hottentot infantry, took post on the tops of the hills, comparatively free of bush, fired into the ravines with his six pounders, and then penetrated the bush in various directions, meeting the enemy, for the first time, hand to hand in their fastnesses, who, armed with muskets and assegais, or javelins, stood their ground well for some time, but, at last, were driven before our people.

During March, the frontiers were comparatively free from Caffres; however, scattered parties were seen here and there, and I was out twice after them. On the 26th of March, his Excellency Sir Benjamin D'Urban having completed his arrangements for invading Caffreland, to punish the Amakosa for their unexpected invasion of the colony in December and January, we left Graham's Town, and galloped, amidst pelting rain, by Governor's Kop to Caywood's, Caffre Drift, forty miles—27th, thirty to Mount Somerset—28th, thirty-five to the Camp, two miles north of Fort Willshire. The Governor, on this occasion, and on others, has proved himself to be a man of iron; for upwards of two months at Graham's Town he took little or no exercise, but closely confined himself to business: he walked sometimes in the evening, and once rode out eight miles into the country to see the Dams and grape gardens of Major White, a great sheep farmer, and shortly after we left, a party of Caffres came to the place. His Excel-

† Literally the Great Gentleman.

lency is first up, and the last in bed; and, with all his fatigue and work, enjoys the best of health, principally owing to his great abstemiousness.

The army numbers about 4,000 across the Keiskama, or proper frontier, divided into four divisions. The first, or head-quarter division, is under the General's own direction, and consists of a detachment of the Cape Mounted Rifles, 150 in number, in green forage caps and jackets, brown leather trowsers, and double-barrelled rifles. These Hottentots are short, robust men, eat ox flesh at "no allowance," are very brave, enter the bush with the greatest alacrity, are capital shots, but are very careless of their horses, gallop them along the road, and soon sore-back them, and knock them up, if not continually looked after; besides, they are apt to get sulky if spoken to harshly, or sworn at. By Hottentot is understood every brown or black man in the Cape colony, in which there are few or none of the genuine breed left. A provisional battalion of Hottentots, principally from the missionary stations of Bethelsdorp, Gnadenenthal, &c.—400 men in round hats, claret-coloured jackets, and trowsers of baize, and armed with muskets and bayonets; the officers are half-pay officers, &c.—300 Swellendam burghers, Dutch boors, in high crowned and broad-brimmed white hats, duffle jackets, leather trowsers (crackers), a pouch of balls strapped round the waist, and a large powder-horn swinging at their left side; they bear on their shoulder a mighty *vöer*, or rifle, some of these carrying four balls to the pound: the horses are little shuffling galloways, with long manes and tails. Field-Commandant Linde, nearly eighty years of age, and long accustomed to Caffre warfare, rides at the head of the lusty Swellendammers, who fire at everything moving at night, without challenging, delight in hunting down and taking long shots at Caffres retreating over a plain, but have, in general, a decided aversion to dismounting and entering the bush; they serve as cattle guards, having a wonderful fancy for *beestees*, as they call oxen—30 guides, formerly elephant hunters in Caffreland, traders, &c., all prime shots; they wear white hats, surrounded with leopard-skin bands, jackets, and leathers, and are well mounted—the 72nd Highlanders, in red jackets and leather trowsers, to pass with impunity through the mimosa thorns, and peaks at the back of their forage bonnets to protect them from the sun: sometimes the thermometer at noon is 80°; and, a few mornings ago, on the Gona, it was at 40°, with ice on the shallow pools—lastly, with the head-quarter division there are two six-pounder guns, and seventy waggons, with spans of ten oxen each, laden with bell-tents, biscuit, corn and barley for forage, ammunition, &c.

The second division, Colonel Somerset, Mounted Rifles, and boors, with two field pieces, 1,000 men—the third, Major Cox's, a provisional battalion of Hottentots, boors, and two guns, 1,000. The fourth division, Field-Commandant Van Wyk's 700 boors. Colonel England, with the 75th regiment, burghers, &c., remains at Graham's Town to guard the frontier. On the 30th of March, the head-quarter division crossed the Keiskama at Fort Willshire; the second division between it and the sea; the third, from Fort Beaufort; and the fourth, from the Tarka and Winterberg.—(See Arrowsmith's excellent map of 1834).

For a few days the camp of the head-quarter division was established on the Deba; in the corn-fields, on the banks of the Kabeegha, we had found the dead bodies of Caffres who had died of their wounds, half devoured by hyenas. On the 1st of April spies penetrated our camp; and one, armed with assegais, and bearing a bag of wild honey, was shot at 2 A.M. on the 2nd, within fifty yards of the General's and the staff tents. On the 3rd of April we had a very hard day's work: the General, with a select force,

left the camp at midnight, ascended Yslambis Kop (Intaba Kandoda, "dead man's rock"), passed on to the Amatola, crossed the Keiskama four times, took many head of cattle: in passing along a wooded ravine, the Governor's party was attacked by Caffres; these were repulsed, whilst Major Cox, and Captain Warden were fighting the enemy in the picturesque and beautifully-wooded mountains of the Amatola round us. We returned to camp by Broomhill (missionary station), lighted on our way by the burning of innumerable kraals, having been eighteen hours in the saddle, and having marched between forty and fifty miles.

The Caffres we have seen are well-grown men, and thrive on their curdled milk and millet; they are swarthy, with curled hair, and *thickish* lips, and nothing of the Arab in them, as some have alleged: their dress is the loose in-gubo, or cloak of curried hide, fastened at the neck, and reaching to the ancles.

Our camp was next established at the Poorts of the Buffaloe, where that clear and abundant stream issues from the most majestic and thickly-wooded mountains, at the base of which are verdant slopes of the richest pasture, and kraals and corn-fields are found everywhere in the hollows.

On the 7th of April, Captain Murray's Company, 72nd, 120 Hottentots and 100 boors, went from the camp at 2 A.M., and attacked the enemy on the Krantz. On the 9th, parties entered the bush at different points with successful results; there was skirmishing all day, and the echoes of the wooded ravines of Buffelsberg were wakened for the first time with British artillery.

On the 15th of April the head-quarter division crossed the Kei, while numerous bodies of Hinza's Caffres occupied the opposite banks: one advanced from the rest, and called out, "Oh, mangesi" (English) "Do you know what river this is?"—The Governor answered, "Yes, very well."—"Why do you come with an army into Hinza's country?"—"To see him, and to ask satisfaction."—"We won't fight you."—"Very well, but I must see Hinza."—We passed on, and halted at Butterworth, on the Gona, some days; gave Hinza nine days' grace, when the war was renewed: our parties have engaged the Caffres all round this and up the Somo twenty miles, have burnt Hinza's own kraal there, he being absent, and taken 15,000 head of cattle, while all the Fingoes, to the number of five or six thousand, have joined us; they are the remains of tribes which fled from the Zoolas, in Chaka's time, and became slaves in Caffreland: they are well armed with assegais, and five feet hide shields.

At last, yesterday evening (April 29), Hinza, the King, the Great Elephant, the Lion, with fifty followers, galloped into the camp to sue for peace; he is a robust man about six feet high, is distinguished by a leopard-skin kaross (cloak), and wears nothing on his head but his curly hair: his age about forty-five. The terms are 25,000 head of cattle, and 500 horses in five days, (50,000 head of colonial cattle, and 1,000 horses passed into his territory in January), and the same number in twelve months. He remains with us of his own accord, and has sent to one or two of his chiefs—among others, to Bookos, to say he is detained by us, and that they must send their cattle, &c. I expect Fynn, my companion to Delagoa, daily, from Faco; we return now by the Amatola to settle accounts with Macomo, Tyrlee, Eno, &c., and hope soon to be at Cape Town.

JAMES EDWARD ALEXANDER,
42nd R. H.

EARTHQUAKE IN CHILLI.

Extract from a private letter, dated Valparaiso, 26th March, 1835.

We experienced here, on the 28th February last, a very long, though not very severe, shock

of an earthquake; the effects of which, however, have been awfully ruinous in the south of Chili. The city of Concepcion has been shaken to the ground, leaving scarcely the trace of either public or private building standing; while its port, Talcahuara, is totally destroyed, the ruin left unfinished by the shock having been completed by the sea breaking over it. Providentially, the loss of life has not been great, compared to the general destruction of buildings; but many other cities and towns have also suffered dreadfully in this latter respect, and the people, far and wide, are reduced to extreme wretchedness and misery, which will be greatly heightened by the heavy rains of the approaching winter. * * * The phenomena exhibited by this earthquake in different parts of Chili, and the adjoining sea, have been very singular. In some places, the earth has been moved in waves; while in others, immense columns of smoke arose, accompanied with terrific explosions and columns of water, and followed by wide-spreading flames and fire. This was especially the case in the Island of Juan Fernandez, in which it continued from noon of the 26th February, till 2 P.M. of the following day, during all which time the island was completely illuminated. In many places, also, the sea retired to a distance of three miles, leaving the usual anchorage perfectly dry; and a ship in the port of Talcahuara, which was anchored in nine fathoms water previous to the shock, had only two under her immediately after it. An English merchant ship also, which was ninety-four miles from the land, and going seven knots, in a moment seemed to be arrested, and her bottom grated as on a hard sand. So perfect was the illusion, indeed, that the master was in the act of lowering his boats to save the crew, considering the vessel irrecoverably wrecked on a bank, when it was ascertained that there were no soundings even at ninety fathoms. In a word, the accounts are indefinitely various, which are pouring into Valparaiso from all quarters within an area of apparently above a thousand square miles; and the impression is still so vivid, that we are unable to sleep in tranquillity, through fear of a return of this frightful visitation. I assure you, that here, in South America, our beds are not of roses; and, between civil and political convulsions, we are almost constantly suffering in one section or other of it. I am myself coming home,—and yet, in ordinary circumstances, the climate of Chili is delightful; its productions are various and valuable—its people are docile and hospitable—and great are the blessings and advantages which would be enjoyed in the country, were it only less warred on by nature and the selfishness of man.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP ON LITERATURE AND ART.

WE have read the last number of the *Quarterly Review*, with the conviction that it is the best number of this periodical—we might almost say, of any review which has ever come before us. There is, for those who are interested in geographical research, a careful and elaborate, though somewhat savage, anatomy of Captain Ross's last work—for the more gossiping reader, an outpouring of seasonable reproof upon Mrs. Butler's Journal; and an article upon Travels in Portugal. Then there is a genial, gentle, and shrewd notice of Elia—fit tribute to the man. For the poet, a paper on Wordsworth's last volume—for the historical inquirer, an examination of Von Raumer's History of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries; with an article upon Sir James Mackintosh for all such as delight in biography—nay, even the *gourmand* may here read and be satisfied, for the pleasant *exposé* of the mysteries and delicacies of gastronomy is almost the next best thing to the dainties of which it treats.

The Annual Meeting of the Scientific Asso-

ciation of Germany is to be held this year at Bonn, on the Rhine, from the 17th to the 27th of September. At the meeting last year, at Stuttgart, Dr. Christian Frederick Harless, Privy Councillor of Prussia, and Professor of Medicine in the University of Bonn, and Dr. Jacob Noeggerath, one of the Directors in Chief of the Council of Mines for the Rhenish Provinces of Prussia, were respectively chosen President and Secretary of the ensuing meeting.

The Geological Society of France meets in the beginning of September at Mezières, and, after examining the country there, and around Namur, Liège, and Aix-la-Chapelle, joins the German Association at Bonn. The attractions of such an assemblage will be greatly heightened by the beauty of the country around the place of meeting; and the neighbouring Siebengebirge, Laacher, See, and Cifel, will present especial objects of interest to the geologist.

There will be sufficient time to go to Bonn after the meeting of the British Association in Dublin, and we hope that our country will be worthily represented in all the departments of physical and medical science. Those who mean to go will do well to give notice in due time, in order that they may not be disappointed as to accommodations. We know that, in the true spirit of German hospitality, the Committee are anxious to provide comfortable quarters for all strangers; but the town is small, and, therefore, they should get as early advice as possible. Letters should be addressed to Professor Noeggerath.

The following strange paragraph appeared in the *Times* of Monday last:—

"On application of Professor Dewhurst, the President and Founder of the Verulam Philosophical Society of London, to Lord Palmerston, his Lordship has consented to transmit, through the Foreign-office, free of postage, the correspondence and communications of that learned body to the different scientific institutions and eminent foreigners residing in Paris, Brussels, Berlin, and the Hague."

When persons put themselves thus ostentatiously before the public, when they address themselves to foreign "scientific institutions and eminent foreigners," and have so far mystified Lord Palmerston that he consents to give the sanction of his high office to their correspondence, it becomes our duty, for the honour of science at least, to inquire into the pretensions of the parties, and the character of the Society thus officially sanctioned. Of "the President and Founder" we know nothing personally, but it appears, according to the following card, put forth on his own authority, that

PROFESSOR DEWHURST

F.W.N.H.S., F.W.M.S., F.E.S.L., F.A.L.S., F.M.B.S.,
F.L.V.S., F.R.I.S., F.V.M.L., ETC.,

Author of the *Natural History of the Arctic Seas*, &c. Professor of Zoology and Comparative Anatomy to the Eclectic Society of London, and of Anatomy to the Artists' Anatomical Academy.

Further, according to a pamphlet now on our table, that he is also "President of the London Plinian Society;" the meaning of all or any of the enigmatical letters which follow his name, it is beyond our poor philosophy to conjecture. We, ourselves indeed, but narrowly escaped some such infliction lately, when the "Professor" informed us that we had "laboured so much for the diffusion of knowledge," that he had inrolled our name in the list of Honorary Members of the said Ver. Philo. Soc., requesting us, at the same time, to introduce into our List of the Societies' Meetings, "Verulam Philosophical Society, 4 to eight," adding, significantly, "as our members and their friends know where it is held, we do not wish the address given." Having no passion for these vain gauds, we declined the honour intended, and requested

that our name might be struck off the register. We have, perhaps, said enough to induce the Foreign Secretary to make further inquiries before he intrusts the character, at least the scientific character, of the country, to "Professor" Dewhurst, and "that learned body" of which he is "Director, President, and Founder."

We are sorry to have to advert to the retirement of John Cramer from the musical profession, and his approaching departure from England; but glad to hear that the farewell dinner given to him at the Freemason's Tavern, on Wednesday last, went off so pleasantly. It could hardly be otherwise, seeing that Sir George Smart presided, that the number of ladies and gentlemen was tolerably evenly balanced, and that Moscheles, Herz, Neate, Potter, and Cramer himself, all played in the course of the evening.

The following works have recently issued from the press at Cairo, being part of a series of elementary treatises, compiled by order of Mohamed Ali, for the use of the schools he has established; 'The Book of Manners and Customs,' by the Sheikh Refia (one of the Egyptians who received his education at Paris); 'A Geographical and Biographical Dictionary,' by the same; 'The Guide to the Preservation of Health,' by Clot Bey, and 'Introductions to Geography, Mineralogy, and the System of the Universe.'

It is expected that the new edition of Lebeau's 'History of the Lower Empire,' which has been now several years in the course of publication, will be completed in a few months. In the volume last published, there is a curious account of the ravages committed by the descendants of Jenghiz Khan, extracted from Georgian and Armenian writers.

M. Schmidt has just completed his Mongolian Dictionary, undertaken by desire of the Emperor of Russia; it will be published in the course of this year at St. Petersburg. The Mongolian language and literature are very diligently studied in Russia, not only on account of the Mongol tribes subject to that empire, but rather in consequence of the increased activity in the investigation of the ancient connexion between the Slavonian and Asiatic tribes, mainly produced by Professor Charmoy's lectures and dissertations. Nor is the aid to be derived from other oriental sources in elucidating the obscure portions of Russian history neglected; Professor Charmoy is about to publish the text and translations of all the passages in which the Slavonian tribes are noticed by Arabic or Persian writers.

SCIENTIFIC AND LITERARY

ROYAL SOCIETY.

[Abstract of Papers read at former meetings, continued from p. 456.]

"On the Results of Tide Observations, made in June 1834, at the Coast-Guard Stations in Great Britain and Ireland. By the Rev. W. Whewell, F.R.S., Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge.

"On a representation made by the author of the advantages which would result from a series of simultaneous observations of the Tides, continued for a fortnight, along a great extent of coast, orders were given for carrying this measure into effect at all the stations of the Preventive service on the coasts of England, Scotland, and Ireland, from the 7th to the 22nd of June inclusive. From an examination of the registers of these observations, which were transmitted to the Admiralty, but part of which only have as yet been reduced, the author has been enabled to deduce many important inferences. He finds, in the first place, that the tides in question are not affected by any general irregularity, having its origin in a distant source, but only by such causes as are merely local, and that therefore the tides admit of exact determination, with the aid of

local meteorological corrections. The curves expressing the times of high water, with relation to those of the moon's transit, present a very satisfactory agreement with theory; the ordinates having, for a space corresponding to a fortnight, a minimum and maximum magnitude, though not symmetrical in their curvatures on the two sides of these extreme magnitudes. The amount of flexure is not the same at different places; thus confirming the result already obtained by the comparison of previous observations, and especially those made at Brest; and demonstrating the utility of all attempts to deduce the mass of the moon from the phenomena of the tides, or to correct the tables of the tides by means of the mass of the moon. By the introduction of a local, in addition to the general, semimenstrual inequality, we may succeed in reconciling the discrepancies of the curve which represents this inequality for different places; discrepancies which have hitherto been a source of much perplexity. These differences in the semimenstrual inequality are shown by the author to be consequences of peculiar local circumstances, such as the particular form of the coast, the distance which the tide wave has travelled over, and the meeting of tides proceeding in different directions; and he traces the influence of each of these several causes in producing these differences. A diurnal difference in the height of the tide manifests itself with remarkable constancy along a large portion of the coast under consideration. The tide hour appears to vary rapidly in rounding the main promontories of the coast, and very slowly in passing along the shores of the intervening bays; so that the cotidal lines are brought close together in the former cases, and, in the latter, run along nearly parallel to the shore; circumstances which will also account for comparative differences of level, and of corresponding velocities in the tide stream. The author intends to prosecute the subject when the whole of the returns of these observations shall have undergone reduction."

"Copies of Registers of the Thermometer kept at Alford, Aberdeenshire. By the Rev. James Farquharson, F.R.S.

"The observations recorded in these tables were made at 9^h 15^m A. M., and at 8^h 30^m P. M., each day of the year 1833; and the highest and lowest temperatures in each month observed from the indications of Six's thermometer. The author remarks that the differences between the temperature of the morning and evening hours of observation were greatest, on an average, during clear weather; that is, when the radiation of heat from the ground is greatest."

"On the Ice, formed under peculiar circumstances, at the bottom of running Water. By the Rev. James Farquharson, of Alford, F.R.S.

"The ice, which is frequently observed to collect at the bottom of streams and rivers, differs in appearance from that which is formed at the surface; for, instead of assuming the shape of solid glass-like plates, it has more the appearance of aggregated masses of snow, and is composed of small crystals of ice adhering together irregularly, either by their sides or angles. Rivers are sometimes so choked up by accumulations of ground-ice of this description, that they are not only impeded in their course, but also raised considerably above their banks. While in this state, a slight change in the weather will frequently occasion the complete disengagement of this ice from the bottom; so that, in a very short space of time, the river returns into its natural channel; and then, although it may be frozen at the surface, it continues to flow over a perfectly clear bottom. All these phenomena are considered by the author as perfectly explicable on the theory he advances, of different degrees of radiation of heat occurring from the bottom according to variations of circumstances. He conceives that when this radiation takes place from

the solid opaque materials of the bed of the stream, through the stratum of transparent water, congelation is induced on that portion of fluid, already cooled down to the freezing-point, which is in immediate contact with the radiating body. The circumstances which, by favouring radiation, contribute to this effect, are principally, great clearness of the sky, and great transparency of the water; the bottom of the river being cooled below the freezing-point sooner than the water which is flowing over it; and the ice, formed at the bottom, remaining attached to it as long as the heat which is transmitted from below continues to be lost by radiation. The formation of ground-ice is favoured by the intestine motions incident to a rapid current; because the different strata of fluid, which in still water would have arranged themselves, according to their specific gravities, in the order most conducive to the congelation of the surface, being continually mixed together, the whole body of water is cooled more uniformly."

"Continuation of the paper on the relations between the Nerves of Motion and of Sensation, and the Brain; and more particularly on the structure of the Medulla Oblongata and of the Spinal Marrow. By Sir Charles Bell, F.R.S.

"The author enters into a minute anatomical investigation of the structure of the spinal cord, and of its relations with the encephalon, and with the origins of the nerves. He finds that the spinal cord is constituted, in its whole length, by six pairs of columns, namely, two posterior, two lateral, and two anterior; each column being composed of concentric layers, and invested with an external coating of cineritious substance, and all the columns being divided from each other by deep sulci, which penetrate nearly to the centre of the cord. On tracing the posterior columns in their ascent towards the encephalon, they are seen to diverge laterally at the *calamus scriptorius*, or bottom of the fourth ventricle, and to proceed into the substance of the cerebellum. Each of these posterior columns is here found to consist of two portions, the outermost being the largest; and they now constitute the *processus cerebelli ad medullam oblongatam*. This subdivision of the posterior columns may be traced throughout the whole length of the spinal cord. The lateral columns give origin to the posterior roots of the spinal nerves, and are therefore the parts subservient to sensation. In ascending towards the brain, each of these columns has a double termination; first, in the root of the fifth pair of cephalic nerves; and secondly, in the place where both columns unite into one round cord, and mutually decussate."

"Between the lateral and the anterior columns there is interposed a layer of cineritious matter, constituting a continuous stratum from the *cauda equina* to the roots of the auditory nerves. There is also a septum, dividing the right and left tracts subservient to sensation in the region of the fourth ventricle, and apparently terminating at the point of decussation of these tracts; but, in reality, separating to allow of this decussation, and joining the central portion of the cord, which connects the posterior with the anterior columns, and extends from the *pons Varolii* to the *cauda equina*."

"The anterior columns, constituting, at their upper part, the *corpora pyramidalia*, after their union and decussation, compose the motor columns of the spinal cord. They do not, in their course, unite or decussate with the lateral, or sensitive columns; decussation taking place only among the columns performing similar functions; that is, the motor columns with the motor, and the sensitive with the sensitive."

"On the Elements of the Orbit of the Comet of Halley in 1759. By J. W. Lubbock, Esq., V.P. and Treasurer of the Royal Society.

"In calculating the elements of Halley's comet, former astronomers have in general

adopted the parabolic hypothesis, neglecting the reciprocal of the semi-axis major; and even in the more recent investigations of its orbit, no accurate value of this quantity has been employed. Mr. Lubbock, perceiving the serious effect which an error in the semi-axis major would occasion in the determination of the other elements, renewed these very laborious calculations, assuming as the value of this quantity, that given by M. Pontécoulant, in his *Théorie analytique du Système du Monde*; taking also into account the alterations which the elements of the comet have undergone by the action of the planets, and likewise the effect of precession upon the longitude of the node, and of the perihelion. The author takes this opportunity of correcting the very erroneous statements that have been made respecting the results of his investigations, especially with regard to the time of the perihelion passage, which is, of course, very different from that of its actual appearance to spectators on the earth; although these two epochs are frequently confounded with one another."

"Formule for computing the Longitude at Sea. By William Dunlop, Esq. Communicated by the Secretaries.

"These formulæ, in which the longitude and latitude of two points in a spherical surface, together with the arc of the great circle intercepted between them, are supposed to be given, furnish the means of determining the longitude of any other point in that circle, from its latitude."

"Hygrometrical Observations made on board his Majesty's surveying vessel *Etna*. Communicated by Captain Beaufort, R.N., F.R.S.

"These observations extend from the 27th of March to the 6th of July, 1834, and were made daily at 8 o'clock A.M., at noon, and at 4 o'clock P.M. They comprise the height of the barometer, the dew-point, degrees of dryness on the thermometrical, and of moisture on the hygrometrical scales, the elasticity of the vapour, and the number of grains of vapour in a cubic foot; with occasional remarks. A second series is also given, exhibiting the progress of solar radiation."

"Meteorological Register from the 1st of January to the 1st of November, 1834. By Mr. Edward Barnett. Communicated by Capt. Beaufort, R.N., F.R.S.

"These observations, made during a voyage across the Atlantic, relate chiefly to the temperature of the air, and of the surface of the sea."

"Meteorological Register, kept on board his Majesty's Ship *Thunder*, between the 1st of January and the 30th of June, 1834. By R. Owen, Commander. Communicated by Captain Beaufort, R.N., F.R.S.

"These observations relate to the state of the weather, the direction and force of the wind, and the heights of the thermometer, and of the marine and oil barometers."

"An Account of the Water of the Well Zemzem, with a qualitative Analysis of the same, by Professor Faraday; in a letter from John Davidson, Esq., to the Secretaries, and communicated by them.

"The author having, during his stay at Jedda, the port of Mecca, succeeded in procuring about three quarts of the water from the well of Zemzem, to which the Mahomedans ascribe a sacred character and extraordinary virtues; and wishing to preserve this water for the purposes of analysis, had the can in which it was contained carefully sealed; but, unfortunately, on its arrival in the London Docks, the can, notwithstanding the directions written on it, was opened, and the gas with which it was highly charged, and by which it held in solution a very large quantity of iron and other matters, was allowed to escape. The precipitate thrown down, in consequence of the loss of this gas, was found, by

Professor Faraday, to consist of carbonate of protoxide of iron in the enormous proportion of 100.8 grains to the imperial pint of water. The clear fluid was neutral, and contained much muriate, and a little sulphate, but no carbonate; together with a little lime, potash, and soda. There was also found an alkaline nitrate in considerable quantity; this Mr. Faraday conjectures to have been saltpetre, which had been added to the water by the priests."

"Observations on the Theory of Respiration. By William Stevens, M.D., D.C.L. Communicated by W. T. Brande, Esq., V.P.R.S.

"From the fact that no carbonic acid gas is given out by venous blood when that fluid is subjected to the action of the air-pump, former experimentalists had inferred that this blood contains no carbonic acid. The author of the present paper contends that this is an erroneous inference; first, by showing that serum, which had been made to absorb a considerable quantity of this gas, does not yield it upon the removal of the atmospheric pressure; and next, by adducing several experiments in proof of the strong attraction exerted on carbonic acid both by hydrogen and by oxygen gases, which were found to absorb it readily through the medium of moistened membrane. By means of a peculiar apparatus, consisting of a double-necked bottle, to which a set of bent tubes were adapted, he ascertained that venous blood, agitated with pure hydrogen gas, and allowed to remain for an hour in contact with it, imparts to that gas a considerable quantity of carbonic acid. The same result had, indeed, been obtained, in a former experiment, by the simple application of heat to venous blood confined under hydrogen gas; but on account of the possible chemical agency of heat, the inference drawn from that experiment is less conclusive than from experiments in which the air-pump alone is employed. The author found that, in like manner, atmospheric air, by remaining, for a sufficient time, in contact with venous blood, on the application of the air-pump, acquires carbonic acid. The hypothesis that the carbon of the blood attracts the oxygen of the air into the fluid, and there combines with it, and that the carbonic acid thus formed is afterwards exhaled, appears to be inconsistent with the fact that all acids, and carbonic acid more especially, impart to the blood a black colour; whereas the immediate effect of exposing venous blood to atmospheric air, or to oxygen gas, is a change of colour from a dark to a bright scarlet, implying its conversion from the venous to the arterial character: hence the author infers that the acid is not formed during the experiment in question, but already exists in the venous blood, and is extracted from it by the atmospheric air. Similar experiments made with oxygen gas, in place of atmospheric air, were attended with the like results, but in a more striking degree; and tend, therefore, to corroborate the views entertained by the author of the theory of respiration. According to these views, it is neither in the lungs, nor generally in the course of the circulation, but only during its passage through the capillary system of vessels, that the blood undergoes the change from arterial to venous; a change consisting in the formation of carbonic acid, by the addition of particles of carbon derived from the solid textures of the body, and which had combined with the oxygen supplied by the arterial blood: and it is by this combination that heat is evolved, as well as a dark colour imparted to the blood. The author ascribes, however, the bright red colour of arterial blood, not to the action of oxygen, which is of itself completely inert as a colouring agent, but to that of the saline ingredients naturally contained in healthy blood. On arriving at the lungs, the first change induced on the blood is effected by the oxygen of the atmospheric air, and consists in the removal of the

carbonic acid, which had been the source of the dark colour of the venous blood; and the second consists in the attraction by the blood of a portion of oxygen, which it absorbs from the air, and which takes the place of the carbonic acid. The peculiar texture of the lungs, and the elevation of temperature in warm-blooded animals, concur in promoting the rapid production of these changes."

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

July 7.—The names of those exhibitors to whom prizes had been awarded at the Exhibition, on the 4th inst. were announced. Of these, five were to receive the gold medal, sixteen the large silver, and twenty-six the small silver medal.

Copies of the regulations to be observed by exhibitors at the meetings to be held next season in the Society's garden, were distributed.

The flowers on the table were in great variety; we observed especially the *Eschscholtzia crocea*, *Spiraea arifolia*, *Eutoca viscida*, *Gilia tricolor* and *achilleifolia*, *Catananche bicolor*, *Callioprora flava*, *Solanum tuberosum*, *Eryngium alpinum*, and *Elaeocarpus cyaneus*.

The Rt. Hon. Sir Charles C. Pepys, and five other gentlemen, were elected Fellows of the Society.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—July 6.—The Rev. F. W. Hope, F.R.S. President, in the chair.—Various donations of books were announced, and thanks ordered to be returned to the several donors thereof. Several collections of exotic insects were exhibited, and observations made by the exhibitors upon their respective peculiarities. Amongst them may particularly be mentioned, a large number recently collected in the Bara Tonga Islands of the South Pacific Ocean, by Mr. Nightingale, who informed the meeting, that one of the species contained in it, belonging to the family of the walking-stick insects, (*Pharmida*.) was so numerous in certain seasons, and committed such ravages upon the cocoa-nut trees, (which form the chief support of the natives,) that orders are issued by the chiefs for their destruction.

J. G. Children, Esq. Sec. R.S. called the attention of the meeting to the destruction of the pine-apple, by the *Coccus Bromelia*, a small apterous insect, which infests it in immense profusion, so as to become a perfect pest. Specimens were exhibited by him from the stoves of Sir John Lubbock, and the heads of the fruit were found to be almost covered with a cottony secretion, in the midst of which the eggs and young of the *Coccus* were deposited. A peculiarity observable in this and other species of insects infesting hot-houses, was noticed, viz. that their production is not annual, as in the out-door species, but continuous, thereby occasioning greater obstacles against the application of remedies. The subject was discussed by various members at great length, by whom various remedies were suggested, and it was considered sufficiently important to form the subject of one of the Prize Essays of the Society. The conclusion of Mr. Templeton's descriptions of Crustacea from the Mauritius, was read. The President announced, that on the 22nd ult., a Deputation from the Council had waited upon the Duchess of Kent and the Princess Victoria, at Kensington Palace, by appointment; when their Royal Highnesses inscribed their names in the signature book, as Patronesses of the Society.

PARIS ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.

Abstract of Proceedings, continued from p. 457.

M. Biot having requested the Academy to find some one to replace him in the Vice Presidency, pleading that his health did not allow him to perform its duties in a manner satisfactory to himself, Baron Charles Dupin was elected by a large majority.

Ancient Astronomy.—In consequence of M. Paravey's assertion, that the ancients had observed some of the satellites of Jupiter, M. Arago tried to ascertain if it were possible for him to see them without a magnifying glass, using only one that was darkened, in order to observe the radiations. The experiment failed, but is to be repeated, as the moon was at the time above the horizon. M. Ampère suggested that a peculiar organization could alone enable an observer to see the satellites without a telescope.

Humming Birds.—M. Gervais communicated an account of two new species of humming-bird, one of which he calls *Ornismya Ricordii*, because it was first found by M. Ricord, and the other *O. cinnamomea*. The plumage of the latter is of a cinnamon brown, except the wings, which are of a darker shade, with a cap of a metallic and changeable red. The first species belongs to Cuba, and the second to the Island of Juan Fernandez.

Temperature.—M. Arago laid before the Academy the observations of Mr. Warden, on the remarkable fall of the thermometer during the last winter in the United States. It was the most rigorous season known there for fifty years.

Physiology.—M. de Mirbel read a memoir, entitled, 'Remarks on different points concerning the anatomy and physiology of vegetables.' He entered into minute details concerning the course of the vessels which deposit the bark, and gave an account of his own observations. He divided the vessels into two sorts; the one of which forms cortical layers, and the other a cortical net-work. The former one renewed every year, but the net-work is only to be found in a young stem or branch.

Royal Society.—The attention of the Academy was much occupied by discussions relating to the annual prizes to be given by the Royal Society of England, commencing in the year 1837, as communicated by Mr. König, the Foreign Secretary.

Steam-carriages.—Certain proposed improvements were submitted, but the details would occupy a space which may be devoted to more generally interesting matter.

Yellow Fever.—The reported effect of cold air in curing yellow fever, was discountenanced by the Academicians.

Colouring Matter in Lichens.—M. Robiquet stated his observations on the colouring matter contained in orchil and other lichens, which he thinks to be the result of certain changes which take place in a colourless, saccharine, crystallizable principle, on coming in contact with a combination of ammonia, oxygen, and water, the former of which plays the most active part. M. Robiquet makes the same conclusions respecting indigo.

M. Dutrochet submitted to the Academy a long and elaborate memoir, named 'Observations on the primitive form of vegetable embryos.'

The Dodo.—M. de Blainville communicated his conviction, that the extinct bird called the Dodo, was a large species of vulture. M. de Blainville founds this conviction on a careful examination of the plaster cast, made of the Dodo's head, in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, and is opposed to that of the great Cuvier, who places this bird among the Grallæ, near the Casoarries; but the head is in too damaged a condition to admit of certainty.

Physical Astronomy.—Mr. Walsh, of Cork, addressed a pamphlet to the Academy, entitled, 'Appendix containing some remarks, and a new theory of physical astronomy.' In one of the marginal notes by the author, he says, that after astrology, the greatest absurdity ever propagated, is that of the Newtonian system.

Anniversary Meeting.—At the annual meeting of the five Academies, which form the French In-

stitute, Baron Gros, the veteran painter of battles, (since dead,) presided. The laureate chosen for the year was M. Pierre du Ponceau, now domiciled at Philadelphia, where he presides over the American Philanthropic Society. His memoir was on the grammatical structure of the North American languages, bearing the names of Leni, Lennape, Mohigan, and Chippewa. A gold medal, worth about forty pounds, was announced for the next year, and to be given to the author of the best work on philology, and another, of the same value, to be bestowed on the inventor of the alphabet best adapted to the transcription of Hebrew, and all the languages derived from it, comprising the Ethiopian, Persian, Turkish, Armenian, Sanscrit, and Chinese. After this part of the ceremony was over, M. Guerard, as representative of the Academy of Inscriptions and Belles Lettres, read a memoir on the population of Gaul and Germany under Charlemagne. The Académie Française selected their poet, M. Le Brun, to appear in its name, and he read 'Strophes written at Sea,' which form a prelude to his poem, entitled 'Voyage en Grèce,' which met with great success six years ago. The Académie des Sciences, which is certainly the most active of all the Academies, and performs its part best, deputed M. Becquerel to read a memoir, entitled 'Considerations on the application of Electricity to natural phenomena,' which was by far the most interesting proceeding of the day. M. Bignon represented the Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques, and gave a memoir on the progressive connexion between morality and politics. The embroidered coats filled the members' benches, the boxes and galleries were crowded with the public, and numerous plaudits were heard at separation, whether in approbation, or rejoicing that the proceedings were terminated, we know not; but we have been told privately, that the whole meeting was extremely heavy, and that these assemblies lose their brilliancy and interest; even the Academicians themselves performing their parts as if they were undergoing a necessary, but tedious formality. Is this because the subjects of the memoirs are not generally interesting? Is it because death has been busy among some of the greatest spirits of the age, and there are none to succeed them? Were we asked to solve the question, our reply would be contained in one little word, but of wide meaning, and that word is—Politics.

Supposed fall of Sulphur.—Communication was made to the Academy by Captain Hufty, of a remarkable phenomenon which happened at Olerand, in the department of the Basses Pyrenées. A heavy fall of snow took place there on the 28th of last April, and the next day it was covered with a fine dust resembling sulphur. The best explanation which can be given to this is, that this fine yellow dust proceeds from the blossoms of the numerous pines in the neighbourhood, which flower in that season, and the pollen of which, from its colour and inflammable nature, might be easily mistaken for sulphur.

Conferva.—M. Cagniard Latour laid before the Academy the means by which he has obtained a new Conferva. He put some filtered water for a long time in contact with the vapour of acetic acid. There was first a formation of whitish flakes, which, as they were developed, assumed a dark green, almost approaching to black, which was the more remarkable, as the cellar where the apparatus was placed, was nearly dark. At the end of eight months M. Cagniard presented this production to M. Turpin, who found it to be composed of confervoid filaments, the most advanced of which were divided into cells, and branched and articulated. The same botanist afterwards discovered that the branches terminated in a point, which is a different character to that of Confervæ in general. Taking the apparatus to the light accelerated the develop-

ment of the Conferva, but that development was stopped when the vapour, disengaged from the acid, was no longer suffered to come in contact with the water.

Teneriffe.—MM. Cordier and Bory de St. Vincent having been appointed by the Academy to examine and report upon a new map of the island of Teneriffe, the result of their examination is, that M. Berthelot has published the most correct delineation of this island which has yet been given to the public. It seems that the first known map of this country was made by Père Feuillée, and edited by Delisle. Defective as it is, it has yet served as a basis for those which have succeeded it. The reporters, while they do not even spare their own labours on the same spot, find also great fault with the map of M. Leopold von Buch, the celebrated traveller. They say that it is hardly to be recognized as a representation of Teneriffe; narrow and short ravines are metamorphosed into large open valleys, the mountains of Las Canadas are not to be found in it, and that even the Peak is not in its proper place.

Zostera.—M. Bory de St. Vincent read a memoir to the Academy, presented by MM. Pasteur d'Estreillis and Adolphe Dommieu, on the marine plants called Zostera, which form an excellent material for stuffing beds and mattresses. The south of the Baltic, and the southern coasts of France, yield great quantities of this plant, where it serves to bind the sands of the shores together, and affords excellent manure. The leaves have long been used for packing fragile objects; and now it is ascertained that they form excellent material for bedding.

Chlorate of Sodium.—Dr. Munaret presented a manuscript to the Academy, on the treatment of intermittent fevers by chlorate of sodium. He says it is as prompt and certain a febrifuge as bark or quinine, and merits preference;—first, because the latter is apt, in some constitutions, to confirm or to cause disorders, while the chlorate of sodium may be given in more powerful doses, without any of these results; secondly, because it is cheaper; thirdly, it may be taken as a preventive to these fevers when they are endemic; and fourthly, because it may be administered even when the patient shows symptoms of gastric irritation.

FINE ARTS

THE LAWRENCE DRAWINGS. SECOND SERIES.
Continuing the Lower Rhenish School in Vandyck and Rembrandt.

THESE, perhaps, should have furnished the first series, as Vandyck, with all his grace and beauty, exhibits rather a crowquill sort of draughtsmanship, after the portentous pencil of his master, Rubens—but this is an affair of taste. There are here most exquisite productions of that courtliest genius, who, we imagine, made more noblemen than any king of his time. One among the most interesting portraits, is 'Thomas Howard,' of Arundelian celebrity. That of the two 'Huygenses,' we like better than 'Sir T. Mayerne's,' as in a more genuine style of art, and mellower chiaroscuro. Many of those engraved by Vosterman, for the series of Illustrious Artists, perplex criticism by equality of merit: the two of 'Van Uden,' and 'Vanden Eyden,' may win by a nose. As to the historical drawings, that of the 'Crucifixion,' for the great altar-piece of Ghent, will, perhaps, draw most attention: it is flanked by two fine Bolswert engravings from the design, one with, the other without the letters, the crown of thorns, and the correction of St. John's indecorous hand upon the Virgin, which was, indeed, a great deal too consolatory. We preferred, however, the design for 'Rinaldo and Armida;' it is far above the finished oil-picture at the Louvre, which, though finely coloured in some parts, has the

occasional Vandyck feebleness in others. Nothing can well exceed this in elegance of pencilling and delicate treatment; but, though the face of the Enchantress is of Circæan charm and sweetness, Rinaldo looks too much of a carpet-knight for anything but a satire on the *Watteau* of epic writers. A 'Martyrdom of St. Catherine,' perfectly miraculous for the spirit of touch, and a certain ashy tone as fine as on the wings of a butterfly. Among the more attractive sketches remaining of this master, we would specify the 'Mutius Scevola,' the 'Bacchanalian,' a copy of Leonardo's famous 'Battle-piece,' and part of the 'Christ betrayed,' an admirable picture, at Blenheim. The series of Rembrandts, without being altogether so rich as we expected, contains some capital pieces, while all are valuable. A portrait of 'Renier Anso' will strike, by its character and pharisaical dignity, with which a love of the picturesque led Van Rhyne to endow even an Anabaptist minister. The 'Interior,' exhibiting cookery in progress, is nothing less than a piece of natural magic—not only the clair-obscure, as fine as that of lightning in a cloudy night; but, by the mere witchcraft of workmanship, this little sketchy thing, in brown wash, has all the transparent effect that glazing could give to an oil picture. Several historic studies, of great interest and utility to the artist. A 'Couchant Lion,' with Rembrandt's admirable feeling for good design, and little observance of it. No. 93, 'A Study.' No. 60, 'A Young Girl leaning over a gate'—of which the usual *virtù* epithets may be predicated with more than usual meaning—truth, nature, effect, &c. Landscapes, among which that of a 'Town on a Promontory,' is Titian in water-colours. At No. 96, we have Mynheer Rembrandt's emendation of Leonardo's 'Last Supper!' If there be any one thing of a more grandiose character than the rest in the original work, it is the simple ordonnance of the composition, so harmonious with the subject and the presence: our man of the magic-lantern utterly destroys it. A like defalcation may be pointed out in his copy from Mantegna's 'Story of Apelles,' which is no copy at all, but a spirited sketch. Mantegna's drawing is, perhaps, the greatest curiosity of the Exhibition—compared with Rembrandt's copy, it will show the difference between one of the chief builders, and dilapidators, of the superstructure of art—between a tendency to truth, and to trick—one of which led to the elevation of painting, and the other to its debasement. Odd enough! that Correggio's style should have owed its purity to Mantegna, and its debauchment to Rembrandt! *Verbum sap.*

MUSIC

KING'S THEATRE.

This Evening, I PURITANI; and LA SYLPHIDE.

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.

The musical season is drawing to its close with increased brilliancy. Mr. Ella's *soirée*, which was given on Monday last, offered such a combination of excellence in the music selected, and the performers who appeared, as has rarely fallen in our way. We had Grisi, Malibran, (who came in literally at the eleventh hour, and sung one of her incomparable French romances.) Stockhausen, the Brambillas, Mrs. Bishop, Miss Masson, and all the male strength of the Italian company; with Messrs. Bennett, Balfe and Stretton, and Signors Brizzi and Begrez: besides a horn solo by Puzzi, De Beriot's exquisite Adagio and Rondo Russe, and an instrumental *sceltite*, composed by the *beneficitaire*. But to us the great charm of the evening lay in the excellence and variety of the music selected. We had the opening chorus and quartet, from 'Guillaume Tell;' the duets 'Dove vai,' (magnificently sung by Rubini and Tamburini,) and 'Tutto apprendi,' by Mrs. Bishop and Ivanoff, from the same opera; the opening scene from

'L'Assedio di Corinto'—a fine selection from 'Faust,'—two grand airs, and the Demon chorus from 'Robert le Diable,' besides other better known pieces of music. We must not forget to say, how well we were pleased with Mr. Balfe's compositions; they are lively and characteristic, and full of promise—and that all the music (the accompaniments arranged for a chamber orchestra, by Mr. Ella,) went very well; and finally, that we have only to wish, that such musical treats were of more frequent occurrence.

M. Benedict's Morning Concert, which took place on Wednesday, though more after the established fashion of such things than the *soirée*, is also to be marked with the whitest of white stones in our calendar of musical experiences. The music was excellent and varied; M. Benedict played a pianoforte concerto of great merit, composed by himself—and his overture to 'Rnoul de Crequi,' must not be passed over without a word of well-deserved praise; Malibran was excellent in the music lesson with Lablache, delightfully fantastic and skilful in 'La Cadence du Diable,' a *concertante* with De Beriot;—he, too, was playing his best, and Ivanoff and Balfe sang that charming duet 'I Marinari,' from Rossini's last collection, most beautifully: Rubini introduced a new grand air by Raimondi. The rest of the music, with trifling exceptions, was most interesting, and carefully performed—but we must pass it over to speak of 'Eben ferisci,' in which Grisi and Malibran have left an impression on our minds, so strong, that even now we cannot write of it with anything like sober critical calmness. It was undoubtedly the most splendid and inspired performance of its kind we ever heard; each of these gifted women being excited to do her utmost, not to rival—but to keep pace with her companion. The consent of their voices in the passages *a due*, was more delicious than can be described; and in the final movement, Malibran's flashes of sudden enthusiasm, and Grisi's more sustained displays of passion and brilliant execution combined (as they have been rarely, if ever combined before), carried us to a higher pitch of delight than we dare venture to record. We feel it difficult and ungracious to attempt a comparison between two singers of such surpassing excellence; we question whether either would have sung so well, had the other been absent; for ourselves—but, on second thoughts, we will not mention our private preference, and shall content ourselves with saying, that this magnificent performance awakened in us feelings, which we had almost thought, and feared, we were too hackneyed in pleasure ever to experience again.

MISCELLANEA

French Translation of English Poets.—A magnificent project has been set on foot in Paris, by a Mr. O'Sullivan, who announces a Bibliothèque Anglo-Française, which is to contain translations of all our principal writers. According to the prospectus, the enterprise will be conducted by Mr. O'Sullivan himself, who is to make an analysis of several of the dramas of Shakespeare, and a translation of Macbeth; MM. Guizot, Jay, Mennechet, and Chasles, are to translate Othello, Julius Caesar, and Romeo and Juliet; M. Paul Dupont undertakes an analysis of the dramas contemporary with Shakespeare. M. Coquerel has Spenser and Chatterton allotted to him; M. de Pongerville undertakes the Paradise Lost; M. Mennechet, Butler and Addison; M. Jay, Dryden and Prior; M. Raudet, Buckingham; M. Laurent de Jussieu, Gay; M. Lepelletier d'Aulnay, Swift; M. O'Sullivan, Pope, Gray, and Thomson; M. Dubois, Akenside; M. de Montigny, Goldsmith; M. Charles Nodier, Burns; M. de Chateaubriand, Beattie; M. Taillefer, Cowper; Mad. Belloc, M. M. Paulin, Paris, and Panithier,

Lord Byron; Mad. Belloc and M. Artaud, Walter Scott; M. de Maussion, Sheridan; M. Albert Montemont, Campbell and Rogers; M. Fontaney, Wordsworth; M. de Montalembert, Montgomery; Mad. Belloc, Thomas Moore; M. de Custines, Southey; M. Philarete Chasles, Crabbe; Mad. Constance Aubert, Miss Landon; Mad. Belloc, Miss Baillie; Mad. Pirey, Mrs. Robinson; Mad. Menessier, Mrs. Hemans! There are said to be already, one thousand subscribers to this work, which, besides the above-mentioned, is to contain a complete history of English literature. This part may doubtless be well executed, but we tremble for our immortal Shakespeare, who stands alone in the world of literature, after the satisfaction we have heard expressed at the literal translation of Othello. Burns, too—think of Tam-o-Shanter and John Barleycorn in French! We would rather that other nations should remain in ignorance of our writers, than that those writers should be trampled.

Paris Theatres.—(Extract from a private letter, dated 29th June)—*Apropos* of theatres, they have created a row in the Chamber of Deputies. These deputies, you must know, are most economical folk, and have taken it into their head, some of them, to be monstrous jealous and annoyed, at finding that Monsieur Veron, who farms the French Opera, has made a large fortune in three years; whilst, on the plea that said Opera cannot pay its expenses, it obtains from the public treasury a yearly allowance or subvention of nearly 30,000*l.* Accordingly, when the article of 50,000*l.* voted in the year's estimates, came before the Chamber, M. Liadieres opened a broadside upon the theatres. The Great Opera with its solos had killed the national theatre of the *Comic Opera*, whilst the *Théâtre Français* with its subvention, merely gave *night mares* in five acts. "I tell you," quoth this politico-critic, "that in respect of theatricals, ministers do not see beyond their noses." This created some amusement; M. de Broglie at the moment making great efforts to look through his spy-glass, while Thiers was peering at the orator through his spectacles. Then M. Fulchir got up and perorated on the fall of the drama. But every Frenchman talks of the drama; it is the national hobby-horse, so hardly ridden that one is not surprised to find it completely foundered, unfit to be harnessed in more honourable shafts than those of a *coucou*. The following are the actual sums paid by the French Government to the theatrical establishments in the French capital: The great French Opera, or Académie, gets, in all, 690,500 fr.; the Italian Opera 71,200 fr.; the Comic Opera 186,000 fr.; the Théâtre Français 206,000 fr.; there are pensions to the amount of 39,000 fr. Thus, the Parisian theatres and actors cost the government little short of 59,000*l.* sterling, per annum.

Marble.—A very considerable quantity of fine statuary marble has been discovered in Dauphiné, department of L'Isère, by M. Breton, captain of engineers. The Chamois hunters have long said, that in the torrent which passes through the Val Sénètre, lies a beautiful block, on which are written the following words:—"Si à Grenoble vous me portez, cent écus vous l'aurez." After several attempts to find this block, M. Breton, in the summer of 1834, reached it, and found it inscribed as above. The marble is very white and lustrous, and easily cut. The council for the department have voted funds for working quarries, and have given the superintendence of them to M. Gaynard.

Plate Glass.—A French paper states, that the largest piece of plate glass ever manufactured has just been finished at St. Gobin. It is 175 French inches high, by 125 wide. In 1789, the largest produced was from 110 to 115 inches in length, by from 72 to 75 in width; in 1815,

from 125 to 130, by 75 to 80 wide: at the last exhibition at the Louvre, the largest was 155 inches, by 93; and now, by a great effort of skill, the size has been increased to 175 inches by 125.

Discovery of Antiquities.—Some interesting discoveries have recently been made in the commune of St. Remi-Chaussée, near Rheims. Some workmen, while digging, came to a Roman tomb; it contained a number of vases in good preservation, and several antique medals. The most curious thing discovered, was a statue of Apollo, on one side of which was engraved, the words "Memento mei," and, on the other, "Si me anas, basia me."

Ancient Science.—M. Paravey, who eagerly pursues his researches on this subject, thinks he has found, among the ancients, a knowledge of the conducting rod in case of lightning, and iodine as a remedy for goitres.

Falling in of the Soil.—A falling in of the soil lately took place about eight miles distance from St. Jean Pied-du-Port, in the territory of St. Jean le Vieux, between the road and the river Lansbihar, 500 paces from each. The pit thus formed, is 200 feet in circumference, 25 to 30 feet deep, and mud and water lie at the bottom. This sudden event was accompanied by a great noise, which was taken for the report of a cannon, and was repeated several times.

Fossil Dogs.—The remains of dogs in a fossil state are rare, but a lower jaw has been taken out of the Rhine by some fishermen, together with other fossils. Professor Kaup states, that it in size resembles that of the *Canis familiaris Scoticus*, and in shape that of the blood-hound, and considers it as coming from the primitive stock of our sporting dogs. He names it *Canis propagator*. Professor Kaup has also discovered a new fossil lizard, which he calls *Pisodon coleanus*.

Steam to India.—The *Forbes* steamer had at length arrived at Calcutta, after a very tedious voyage from Suez, which place she left on the 29th of November, reached Juddah on the 3th of December, Mocha on the 16th, and Socotra on the 5th of January, where she experienced considerable difficulty in getting the coals on board, partly in consequence of the confusion which prevailed in the island, the British troops having just taken possession of it, and partly owing to strong winds and a heavy surf. She reached Madras the 18th of February, and Kedgeree on the 28th. She was detained about ten days at each dépôt for coals, and her sailing averaged about five miles an hour only.—*Times*.

Draining by Boring.—The plain of Palis, near Marseilles, used to be a great morass. It appeared impossible to drain it by the help of the common surface-channels. King René, however, caused a great number of pits or drainwells to be sunk, which are known in the Provençal language by the name of *embugs* (funnels). These pits transmitted, and now transmit, into the permeable strata, situated at a certain depth, those waters, which anciently made the whole country a barren waste.—*Mechanic's Mag.*

List of New Books.—Ryan's Practical Formulary of Hospitals, royal 32mo. 4s. 6d.—Johnstone's Systematic Treatise on Draining, 8vo. 4to. 21s.—Phillip on Affections of the Brain, 12mo. 4s.—Bruce's History of Brighton, 12mo. 4s.—Municipal Corporation Report, Vol. 4, folio, 25s.—The Rural Muse, by John Clare, 8vo. 7s.—The Tourist's Companion, from Leeds through Selby to Hull, by Edward Parsons, Esq., 12mo. 4s.—Theological Library, Vol. 12 (Evans's Scripture Biography, 2nd Series), 6s. 6d.—Jamaica as it Was, as it Is, and as it May Be, 12mo. 5s.—Helps and Hints how to Protect Life and Property, by Baron de Benger, 8vo. 14s.—The World; a Poem, 8vo. 10s. 6d.—Commercial Relations between France and Great Britain, Second Report, folio, 12s.—Hope on Architecture, 2nd edition, 2 vols. royal 8vo. 3s.—Ingram's Memorials of Oxford, Vol. 2, 8vo. 18s. 12mo. 7s. 6d.—Ware on the Formation of Christian Character, 12mo. 3s. 6d.—Stewart's Memoir of Stewart, 2nd edit., 12mo. 3s. 6d.—Dillon's Lectures on the Articles, 12mo. 5s.—Coxe's Two Sermons, 12mo. 3s. 6d.—Exposition of the First Five Chapters of the Epistle to the Romans, by Robert Haldane, Esq., 12mo. 6s. 6d.—Liber Ecclesiasticus, an Authentic Statement of the Revenues of the Established Church, 8vo. 16s.—Aldridge's History of the Courts of Law, post 8vo. 3s.—Williams's Daily Bread, 2nd edition, 12mo. 7s. 6d.—Ware on the Formation of Christian Character, 12mo. 3s. 6d.—Donville's Speaking French Grammar, 8vo. 2s. 6d. enlarged, 7s. 6d.—Picture of Slavery in the United States, (1840), 2s.—Stearns's History of the 19th Century, 2 vols. post 8vo. 27s.—The London Review, No. 2, 6s.—The Garland, by Mrs. Sturwood, 12mo. 6s.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

A FEW SPECIMENS OF THE BLUNDERS, FALSEHOODS, AND ABSURDITIES, CONTAINED IN A CRITIQUE ON "THE GEORGIAN ERA," IN THE QUARTERLY REVIEW. (No. CVI. ARTICLE VII.)

"It is only the public situation which this gentleman holds, which entitles me, or induces me, to say so much about him. He is a fly in amber; nobody cares about the fly; the only question is, how the devil did it get there? Nor do I attack him from the love of glory, but from the love of wit, as a bur-comaster hunts a rat in a Dutch dyke, for fear it should flood a province."—*Peter Plymly's Letters.*

SPECIMEN I.

The Reviewer's first impressions of the work he admits to have been favourable. "The plan, as opened in the preface," he says, "is plausible;—first, the Editor proposes to exhibit, in one view, the eminent men who have flourished in the reigns of the four GEORGES, which he designates as the *Georgian Era*, in contradistinction, as he says, to the era of *Elizabeth or Anne*;—in the next place, abandoning the alphabetical form of the Biographical Dictionaries, he classes his subjects under the separate heads of the Royal Family—the Senate—the Church—the Army—the Navy—Science—Literature—Painting—Sculpture—Architecture—Music—and the Stage."

In this apparently candid and careful detail of the plan of the work, the Reviewer suppresses several classes, of such importance, that the work would have been glaringly imperfect had they really been omitted, as they comprise nearly five hundred memoirs, and include many of the most eminent persons who flourished during the Era. The classes suppressed are:—The Pretenders and their Adherents—Dissenters—Judges and Barristers—Physicians and Surgeons—Voyagers and Travellers—Engravers—and Political and Rural Economists.

SPECIMEN II.

Subsequently (p. 452), he asks, "What can be more absurd than to assign to any work, which treats of the general current of human affairs, limits so purely accidental as the name of the prince on the throne?"

The work neither treats, nor does it profess to treat, of the general, but of the particular "current of human affairs," in, or having immediate relation to, one empire, for a particular period. "Its object (as stated in the preface) is to present a luminous view of men and measures, during a recent and most important period of British History—namely, from the accession of George the First to the demise of George the Fourth."

SPECIMEN III.

"If," he adds (p. 452), "Frederick, Prince of Wales, had out-lived George the Second, and so intervened, as the course of nature seemed to promise, between his father and his son, we should never have heard of the 'Georgian Era.'"

Exactly so; and "IF"—to adopt the Reviewer's style of reasoning—Augustus had died in the time of Julius Cæsar, and Elizabeth in that of Mary, we should never have heard of the *Augustan Era*, or the *Elizabethan*;—but they did not; therefore we do hear of such eras; and just so, with regard to the Reviewer's "IF" about Frederick Prince of Wales, and the *Georgian Era*.

SPECIMEN IV.

He gravely arraigns the Editor (p. 450) for having included in his work memoirs of "Tension, Barnet, Atterbury, Berkeley, South, Bentley, Harley, Bolingbroke, Wyndham, Marlborough, Peterborough, Somers, Harcourt, Newton, Radcliffe, Halley, Arbutnot, Garth, Pope, Swift, Addison, Steele, Prior, Gay, Sheffield, Kueler, Gibbons, Wren, Vanbrugh, &c." and gives as a reason why they should not be included, that they had rendered their names illustrious prior to the accession of the House of Hanover.

Immediately after, however, he admits that some of them "acquired new laurels subsequently to that event;"—in the next page but one, he says, "the busy and important time of men's lives is, generally speaking, nearer their deaths than their births;" and, in the page previously mentioned (450)—speaking of the error in judgment he had just before imputed to the Editor of *The Georgian Era* on this point—he confesses that, as "these eminent men all died within the limit of his era, HE HAD A PERFECT RIGHT TO INCLUDE THEM."

SPECIMEN V.

"But," he continues (p. 450), "mark his consistency: when he comes to the *dear end* of his tether, he reckons not by the death, but by the birth." Our consistent critic adds, however (p. 451), "OF THIS INCONGRUITY AGAIN WE DO NOT COMPLAIN!" Why, then—supposing, for a moment, that any incongruity existed,—why introduce it with the ironical phrase of "mark his consistency?"

SPECIMEN VI.

In p. 452 he comes back again to these same points; captiously remarking that, although the Editor "includes many persons born as far back as the reign of Charles I., because they died under George I., he assumes, as the general basis of his chronological order, not the deaths, but the births."

This, however—after having once already confessed that the Editor had a perfect right to include such persons, and once already that such alleged general basis was not to be complained of—this, he says, as memoirs of living characters are introduced,—"WE ADMIT THAT HE COULD NOT AVOID IT."

SPECIMEN VII.

It is nevertheless of opinion (p. 452), that the "arrangement by the order of deaths would be the most convenient, as best preserving the continuity of history." Had so very strange a principle of arrangement been adopted in the work, the memoir of the Princess Charlotte would have preceded that of George the Fourth! and the life and death of Frederick, Prince of Wales, would have been given, before a word had been said about his father!—"truly an Irish mode,"—to use one of the Reviewer's phrases,—of "preserving the continuity of history!"

SPECIMEN VIII.

The Editor's "whole show," says the Reviewer (p. 451), attempting to be facetious, "is suddenly stopped at the very moment of the death of George IV."

And when else would he have had the curtain fall? Even if the work had not been professionally devoted to the biography of the reigns of the four Georges—as it is—the Editor must have stopped somewhere,—and if so, pray where?—at what period more conspicuous than that of the accession of a reforming monarch to a throne that had been occupied for upwards of a century, by men of the same family, but of such widely different principles?—the commencement of what is, over and over again, in the *Quarterly Review*, termed *The Reform Era*, and the close of that very different one which preceded it? Had the Editor omitted the memoirs of all such eminent men as were living at the period of the late King's death, he must necessarily have also omitted some of those extraordinary events by which the latter part of the *Georgian Era* is characterized—events, to the consummation of which those eminent persons mainly contributed. It was, however, necessary to place some limits to such memoirs, and those limits could not, without glaring impropriety,

have been any other than those adopted in the work. Had such memoirs been continued into the reign of William the Fourth, of what worth—of what authority—would the volumes have been? Supposing the Editor had professed to carry down his narratives of those persons who were living at the demise of George the Fourth, to the day of publication, he would have undertaken an impossibility;—because, as well from the time of writing to that of printing, as from that of printing to that of publishing, many events of the highest importance might, in the intervals, have occurred in such persons' lives, which, of course, he would not have been able to record. His allotted bourne is the termination of the reign of George the Fourth. He leaves all his eminent living characters in the exact position they happened to have occupied at that time;—thus, the reader is aware that his work is an authority up to a fixed period. According to the Reviewer's notions, nothing historical should be attempted, until a little after the end of all things!

SPECIMEN IX.

The Appendices, he says (p. 453), "contain, we are told, only a few eminent names accidentally omitted, and their 'satellites.'"

He is not told that the Appendices contain only a few eminent names accidentally omitted, and THEIR satellites; but that the Appendices were intended for the reception of such memoirs as were not deemed of sufficient importance to be inserted in the body of the work, and that a few eminent names accidentally omitted in the body of the work, were located with them.

SPECIMEN X.

"The whole body of the work," he says (p. 454), "has but 844 names; while the few omitted by accident, in the Appendix, are no less than 1065."

He had, just before, stated his impression to have been, that the Appendices contained, not only the few omitted by accident, but likewise their satellites! Even this is different as it is from the truth,—is quite sufficient to convict him of having here made a mistake.

SPECIMEN XI.

He affects (p. 453-4) to be amazed at the circumstance of an appendix to a class containing more memoirs than the class itself.

Did it not occur to him, that mere subordinates are usually more numerous than principals? Has the *Quarterly Review* as many editors as subaltern writers?

SPECIMEN XII.

He is astonished (p. 453), at discovering that the second, third, and fourth volumes have each an appendix, like the first.

And yet he had just before—even in the same page—quoted a passage from the preface, in which it is expressly stated, that it was part of the plan of the work, to give an appendix "at the end of each volume!"

SPECIMEN XIII.

The third and fourth volumes were published, he asserts (p. 453), "with appendices still more enormous" than those to the first or second.

The appendix to the fourth volume, instead of being "more enormous," is LESS, by fourteen pages than that to the second!

SPECIMEN XIV.

"But all this inconsistency and confusion in the arrangement of the work, serious as they are, fade into nothing," he says (p. 454), before the "negligence, stupidity, arrogance, and ignorance, with which the Editor has put his materials together."

All the "inconsistency and confusion," relative to the arrangement of the work, lie entirely with himself. His care, acuteness, modesty, and wisdom, in adducing cases to support the broad accusation he has made against the Editor, of "negligence, stupidity, arrogance, and ignorance," have yet to be displayed.

SPECIMEN XV.

He will not waste time, he says (p. 454), in complaining of such a confusion of dates as "1770 for 1768—even though of events so important as the death of prime ministers."

In an angry note, to p. 452, he speaks, however, of this same confusion of dates, as being 1776, instead of 1768; thus making a difference of no less than six years, between his two careful corrections of the alleged error.

SPECIMEN XVI.

At p. 456 he quotes the following passage:—"Dr. Delany became, at a proper age, a sizar of Trinity College, Dublin; where he formed a strict intimacy with Swift, who is said to have been much attached to him, on account of his playful disposition."—Vol. i. p. 496. Commenting upon this, he says, "our ingenious Editor here gives us to understand that the proper age for entering Dublin College is under two years; for he had just stated that Delany was born in 1686, and Swift left Dublin in 1688."

But did Swift never return to Dublin? It is expressly stated in the Reviewer's favourite authority, the Biographical Dictionary, (Vol. xi. p. 409.) that, while at Trinity College, Delany "formed an intimacy with Swift,"—that "it appears from several circumstances, he was one of the Dean of St. Patrick's first favourites."

SPECIMEN XVII.

In the next page (457), he commences the following pretended quotation:—"Mr. Curran's professional career was chiefly distinguished by his defence of the leaders of the rebellion, in 1798. His most celebrated speeches were in defence of Patrick Finney, Oliver Bond, the brothers Sheares, Theobald Wolfe Tone, and Major Rowan."—Vol. ii. p. 309. In his observations upon this, he accuses the Editor of having confounded Curran's defence of Rowan, in 1794, with that celebrated man's speeches pronounced "on the trials for the rebellion, in 1798."

The Reviewer has here, in order to give some show of truth to his false accusation, had recourse to the dishonourable expedient of coolly omitting seven or eight lines, BETWEEN the two sentences, of which his pretendedly accurate quotation is composed!—See *Geo. Era*, vol. ii. p. 309.

SPECIMEN XVIII.

At p. 460, he says that Bishop Bathurst "is introduced into this collection of eminent persons, with the strange observation 'that he has no pretensions to eminence.'"

On the contrary, the Editor speaks of this prelate as having distinguished himself by his endeavours to procure the emancipation of the Catholics—as having "evinced the liberality of his political and religious opinions, by his exertions in favour of parliamentary reform, and concessions to the Dissenters. He is greatly respected," it is added, "for his independence and amiable qualities; but HAS NO PRETENSIONS TO EMINENCE, EITHER AS AN AUTHOR OR AN ORATOR." (*Geo. Era*, vol. i. p. 516.) Here the Reviewer, it will be observed, has lopped off an essential limb of the

sentence. It is scarcely necessary to remind the reader how very "eminent" a man may be, without having any pretensions to notoriety on the score of oratory or that of authorship.

SPECIMEN XIX.

At p. 465, he endeavours to make it appear, that Sir Robert Walpole did not, on the accession of George II., as stated in *The Georgian Era*, draw up the king's speech to the Privy Council, for Sir Spencer Compton, the intended minister; and that, in saying that he did, the Editor has been guilty of "a mis-statement of Horace Walpole's anecdote."

Here is the anecdote itself, as given, by Archdeacon Coxe, from a communication made to him by Horace Walpole:—"Walpole having knelt down and kissed his [the king's] hand, inquired whom his majesty would be pleased to appoint to draw up the declaration to the Privy Council." Compton, replied the king, with great abruptness; and Walpole quitted the apartment under the most mortifying impressions. He immediately waited on Sir Spencer Compton, with the king's commands; who, unacquainted with the forms and etiquette used on the occasion, avowed his ignorance, and requested the minister to draw up the declaration. *Walpole complied, and Compton conveyed it to the king.*—Coxe's *Life of Walpole*, Vol. I. p. 284.

SPECIMEN XX.

In the next page (466), he charges the Editor with having stated that Lord Bute "went to rank by unworthy means (vol. i. p. 309)"; although Lord Bute, in fact, died, he triumphantly adds, "in the rank to which he was born!"

It is not stated that Lord Bute attained any higher title of nobility, than "that to which he was born." The means by which he procured his elevation to the premiership are well known; and in direct allusion to such means, and to that elevation, the writer makes the following remark:—"He rose to exalted rank IN THE STATE, by arts which evinced a littleness of mind." (Vol. I. p. 309.) The critic, in this case, fraudulently keeps back the words "in the state"; well aware that had he given them, the absurdity of his charge would at once have been exposed.

SPECIMEN XXI.

At p. 472, he attributes to the Editor an eulogium—which he ridicules—on "one Ryland, an engraver." Such eulogium is, however, specifically stated to be that of a preceding biographer.—Vol. iv. p. 215.

SPECIMEN XXII.

"The following blunder (he says, p. 469), has the merit of being droll. In enumerating the literary publications of the late Right Hon. George Rose, the Editor very characteristically includes in the list of Mr. Rose's works, 'thirty-seven volumes of the Journals of the House of Lords' (vol. i. p. 350). He who rests his own claims to literary merit," the Reviewer continues, "on such a compilation as the Georgian Era, must look with admiration and envy on the author of *thirty-seven volumes of the Journals of the House of Lords*. One serious difference, however, there is between these works; Mr. Rose's thirty-seven volumes are models of accuracy." To make the matter more droll, it will be sufficient to state, that, in p. 350, of vol. I., to which the critic refers—"the name of Rose does not occur, and nothing is said about any 'volumes' or any 'journals' whatever!" But, as the critic elsewhere elegantly observes—"this is not the best of it." In the passage he pretends to quote, which occurs at a distant part of the work, the volumes are spoken of as being—not, as he states, iterates, and reiterates, *thirty-seven*—but *thirty-one*. Nor is even this all;—the words "works" and "author," so emphatically dwelt upon by the Reviewer, are forgeries of his own.

SPECIMEN XXIII.

At page 471, he makes the Editor appear to have stated "that a poem on a *plate-warmer*" is more witty than *sublime*." Here, as in many other cases, hoping to avoid detection, he gives no reference to the page. The passage to which he alludes runs exactly thus:—"His productions, of which the best is *The Plate-warmer*, are more witty than sublime."—*Geo. Era*, Vol. II. p. 311.

SPECIMEN XXIV.

In the same page (471), he gives the following, as an instance of the Editor's "panegyric and applause:—"Mr. Hazlitt was one of the most judicious, able, and powerful writers of his time. He is, in his peculiar walk of literature, unrivalled, and in the very first rank of philosophical critics. His Essays are full of wisdom."—Vol. III. p. 397.

Of these three sentences, the first is not to be found in the page to which he refers; to construct it the critic has garbled a passage in a previous part of the memoir. Between the first and second, UPWARDS OF FIFTY LINES ARE OMITTED. The second is composed of the beginning of one sentence and the end of another, eight intermediate lines being suppressed; and the third is stripped of its context. To make the matter complete, it is only necessary to show how he has garbled the passage from which he derived materials for his first sentence; and this will be best accomplished by giving such passage as it stands in the memoir:—"It must be allowed, that in his critical strictures, where his strong and violent prejudices stood not in the way of justice, he was one of the most judicious, able, and powerful writers of his time."—*Geo. Era*, Vol. III. p. 396.

SPECIMEN XXV.

To give one more case from the same page (471):—"He accuses the Editor of saying that 'The Duke of Wellington looks pale and cold, like an aristocrat' (ii. 104); a word, by the way," the Reviewer adds, "used throughout the whole book in an opprobrious sense."

The page to which he refers does not contain one word about the Duke of Wellington; the passage he has here garbled occurring thirty-six pages off. It is as follows: "In person, the Duke of Wellington is above the middle size, with a cold, pale, and Roman-like countenance, which is a tolerably correct index to his mind. Every feature bespeaks the soldier, the aristocrat, and the man of energy and decision."—*Geo. Era*, Vol. II. p. 140.

SPECIMEN XXVI.

At p. 461, the Reviewer charges the author with being sadly at sea about *Watsons*, for having described Joseph Warton "as 'the son of the Rev. Thomas Warton, Professor of Poetry at Oxford.'" Vol. III. p. 522: Joseph was born, he adds, in 1722; yet he had told us, a few pages before, that his father aforesaid, Thomas, Professor of Poetry, was born in 1723, six years after his imputed son.

The Reviewer himself, and not the author, "is sadly at sea about these *Watsons*." While, on the one hand, the author has not committed the slightest mistake in the matter, his Reviewer, on the other, has not only betrayed considerable ignorance, but has been guilty of a malignant and most infamous untruth. The assertion is utterly false that the father of Joseph—Thomas, Professor of Poetry—is anywhere in *The Georgian Era* stated to have been born in 1723, six years after his imputed son. Thomas, Professor of Poetry, the younger brother of Joseph, as the Reviewer properly designates him, is, indeed,—and correctly,—described as having been born in that year; but in no part of the work is he spoken of as the father of Joseph. And yet, after all, Joseph was, as it is mentioned in *The Georgian Era*, "the son of the Rev. Thomas Warton, Professor of Poetry at Oxford." The Reviewer, however, has no idea that this could possibly have been the case; he is evidently ignorant that there were two Birkhead professors of poetry of the same name—

Thomas Warton the father, and Thomas Warton the son!—that Joseph, the brother of the latter, was the son of the former!"

SPECIMEN XXVII.

At p. 452, still harping upon his favourite absurd scheme of "an arrangement by the order of deaths," the Reviewer says, "Let us take, for instance, four consecutive prime ministers, in whose history we read that of the nation for a most important period—Walpole, Pelham, the Duke of Newcastle, and George Grenville. The order of their deaths was the same as that of their administrations; and the relation would, if they had been thus arranged, have naturally proceeded from one to the other; but, placed as they are in *The Georgian Era*, by order of birth, when we part from Walpole, in 1744, we jump to Newcastle's administration in 1754; we follow that to its close, in 1761; we then fall back upon Pelham, in 1743; and then spring forward twenty years to Mr. Grenville, in 1763."

It is quite safe to assert that no two sentences have ever yet been penned containing such prodigious blunders as these! Here is a writer, professing to be well acquainted with the modern history of this country, pretending to review a work devoted to the reigns of the four last monarchs, and permitted to cut a figure in the Quarterly, who supposes Walpole's administration to have terminated in 1744—Pelham's to have commenced in 1743—Newcastle's to have continued from 1754 to 1761—and the nation to have been without a government from the latter year until 1763;—a writer so deplorably ignorant respecting "the most common persons and most ordinary facts in our political history," (to use his own words, p. 465), as never to have heard of the administration of Lord Carteret (of that Lord Bute!! or even of that of William Pitt, the great Earl of Chatham!!)—all of which intervened between the resignation of Walpole and the accession to power of George Grenville—the first and the last of the Reviewer's "four consecutive prime ministers." As the case stands—and it might be made still stronger against him—in enumerating four, he has omitted three, and among those three the most eminent of the seven!

"Placed as they are in *The Georgian Era*," he says, "by order of birth, when we part from Walpole, in 1744, we jump to Newcastle's administration in 1754." We do neither the one nor the other. Walpole, as it is correctly stated in *The Georgian Era*, resigned on the 11th of February, 1742, and died on the 18th of March, 1745. So that we do not, as the Reviewer asserts, in any way "part from Walpole in 1744." Neither do we make the prodigious jump of which he speaks;—namely, from Walpole's administration (or death—for it is not quite clear which he means—but no matter in either case he is wrong) to that of Newcastle, in 1754; for, besides several other memoirs, that of Carteret, Earl of Granville, intervenes, a man who was twice at the head of affairs in the interval.

"We jump," he says, "to Newcastle's administration in 1754; we follow that to its close, in 1761." How supremely ridiculous is this! The Duke of Newcastle resigned in 1756, and Pitt then became prime minister. He ceased to be so, for a short time, in 1757, but soon returned to office. The Duke of Newcastle was certainly included in the new administration; which, however, was to all intents and purposes that of Pitt.

"We then fall back," the Reviewer says, "upon Pelham in 1743." Here, again, he is, as usual, wrong in his figures. Pelham, and his brother, did not succeed in ousting Granville until the latter end of the following year.

"We then," he adds, "spring forward twenty years to Mr. Grenville, in 1763." But he had just before said that the administration of the third of his "four consecutive prime ministers"—that of the Duke of Newcastle,—closed in 1761! so that, according to his account, the nation was without a government for two years! He completely overlooks LORD BUTE, who was GEORGE GREENVILLE'S IMMEDIATE PREDECESSOR!

So many capital errors, as to "the most common persons and most ordinary facts of our political history," occurring within so short a space, that the passage contains nearly if not quite as many blunders as lines, would be farcical, if, on account of their being gravely given forth as facts by an influential Reviewer, they were not calculated to do considerable harm, by grossly misleading persons as uninformed as the critic himself.

SPECIMEN XXVIII.

In the course of his article the Reviewer makes the important discovery that there was some such official person as the first Mr. Pitt, but finds not only just in question about that distinguished statesman to enable him to commit the following remarkably palpable blunder:—"At p. 456, he says, 'Mr. Pitt had already been secretary of state in 1756, and never resumed that office.'"

BUT HE DID, in the following year, and held it for a considerable period.

SPECIMEN XXIX.

The following passage (p. 463) has, perhaps, the merit of being the Reviewer's master-piece:—"He states, that the Editor having found, in the Biographical Dictionary, 'that Lord Oxford had been a patron and governor of the South Sea Company, he sagaciously observes, 'that Harley's famous project of the South Sea Company, which he fondly imagined would have relieved the nation from her difficulties, proves that he was not a wise man'—vol. I. p. 267. Thus," the Reviewer adds, "confounding the South Sea bubble, which, many years after Harley had left public life, was concocted by some of his most virulent political opponents, with the institution of the company, which exists, to this hour, in the manner, and for the purposes, for which it was incorporated in 1710."

This "famous" passage admits of eight distinct contradictions. It contains one misquotation; one error in figures; four blunders, expressed or implied, as to very notorious facts; and two false assertions, made with more than Hibernian impudence! 1.—*The misquotation*—It is not said, in the memoir of Harley, that the project in question "proves that he was not a wise man";—and the omission essentially alters the meaning—"that he was not, on all important occasions, a wise man." (*Geo. Era*, Vol. I. p. 267.)

2.—*The error in figures*—The company was not "incorporated in 1710," as the Reviewer states, but on the 8th of September, 1711, which is the precise date of its charter. Even the first commission for registering subscribers, as a preliminary to their incorporation, was not issued until the 28th of June, in the last-mentioned year. (Charter, By-Laws, &c. of the S. S. Comp. by Richard Mount, Stationer to the said Company, 1718.)

3, 4, 5, 6.—*The blunders as to very notorious facts*—The Reviewer supposes, and evidently would imply, by the ironical style in which he introduces the quotation,—first, that the project was not Harley's;—secondly, that it was not a "famous project!"—and, thirdly, that it was not "fondly imagined" to be a scheme by which the nation would have been relieved from her difficulties!!! This really is most marvellous! Had he been possessed of an ordinary acquaintance with English history, he would have known, that the project was Harley's;—that it was deemed a "famous project!"—and that it was fondly imagined that it would have relieved the

* In Mant's life of Thomas Warton, prefixed to his works (Oxford, 1802), Thomas, the father, is stated to have held the office of poetry-professor, from 1710 to 1723; and, in the memoir of the said Thomas Warton, in the Biographical Dictionary, the following passage occurs:—"His father was Fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford, Poetry-Professor in that University, and afterwards vicar of Baslington," &c. (Vol. XXXI. p. 167.) In the 70th vol. of the *Gentleman's Magazine*, p. 327, a list is given of the Birkhead Professors of Poetry; by which it appears, that Thomas Warton was the seventh, the second the seventh. It is, therefore, obvious, that the writer in *The Georgian Era* has correctly described Joseph Warton as "the son of the Rev. Thomas Warton, Professor of Poetry at Oxford."

nation from her difficulties. In Coxe's Life of Sir Robert Walpole, it is said, 'The South Sea Company owed its origin to a chimerical project, formed by HARLEY, in one thousand seven hundred and eleven, for the purpose of restoring the public credit.' (Vol. i. p. 126.) And again, in the next page, 'The FAMOUS Act of Parliament, which incorporated the subscribers of the [public] debts, under the name of the Governor and Company of Merchants of Great Britain, trading to the South Seas, and other parts of America, was called the EARL OF OXFORD'S MASTER-PIECE, and considered, by his panegyrist, as the sure means of bringing an inexhaustible mine of riches to Great Britain; but, in fact, this scheme was settled on a false foundation.' (Vol. i. p. 127.) The writer of Harley's life is settled on a false foundation. 'Le tout-puissant Harley ne s'occupa que du soin d'améliorer les finances. Mais les plans qu'il fit exécuter serent d'ailleurs reprochés par la probité et la morale. Dans l'intention de diminuer les charges du trésor public, il organisa les créanciers de l'état en compagnie de marchands; leur donna des privilèges étendus, et leur fit accorder le commerce exclusif de la mer du Sud. Comme il trompa les malheureux créanciers en leur faisant envisager l'expectative du commerce avec le Pérou.' &c. (Vol. xix. p. 437.) The author of 'A True and Impartial Account of the Rise and Progress of the South Sea Company' (London, 1743), describes its charter as having been 'a hopeful legacy of the late EARL OF OXFORD' (p. 6); and, as he subsequently states, 'a child conceived and brought forth by that great, and I wish I could say, good, minister, ROBERT HARLEY, Esq.' (p. 9.) In 'A Letter to a Member of Parliament, on the settling of trade to South America,' the preface to which is dated on the 3rd of May, 1711, the author says, 'The unanimous resolution of your honourable house in the agreeing to the Right Honourable Mr. Harley's proposal, of providing effectually for the payment of the debts of the nation, and of establishing a trade to the South Sea of America, hath filled the hearts of all good subjects with joy.' (p. 4.) In 'A True Account of the Design, &c. of the S. S. Trade, London, Morphew, 1711,' it is said, 'Besides this provision for the interest at six per cent. of all the national debts, the parliament readily gave into a project formed, with great wisdom and public spirit, by the prime minister, for incorporating the proprietors of the said debts to carry on a trade to the South Seas.'

(p. 5.) Again—and to quote from one of the most ordinary works of reference—'Mr. Harley, at that time Chancellor of the Exchequer, and afterwards Earl of Oxford, proposed a scheme, to allow the proprietors of these debts and deficiencies six per cent. per annum, and to incorporate them for the purpose of carrying on a trade to the South Seas,' &c. (Ency. Lond. Art. Company.)

After having made such a parade of his own ignorance as to Robert Harley, Earl of Oxford, and so splendid a blunder as that previously exposed in respect of the administration of Robert Walpole, Earl of Orford, the Reviewer, with amusing impudence, exclaims, 'It is short of the truth, that Harley was merely a "patron and abettor" of the Earl of Orford as he does of the Earl of Oxford.' (p. 465.) ADMITTED! But the Reviewer himself is not in so happy a condition; for, it is quite clear that he knows nothing about either of them.

His fourth blunder has yet to be dealt with, and this perhaps is the grossest of the whole. He says, that the company "exists to this hour, in the manner and for the purposes for which it was incorporated." That such, however, is not the case is quite notorious. The company was incorporated for the purpose of trading to the South Seas; it has frequently been modified, and for a number of years has "NOT CARRIED ON ANY TRADE WHATSOEVER."—Ency. Lond. Art. Company.

7. 'The two false assertions.'—First, he says that the Editor has confounded the Company with the bubble. This is untrue. The reader may perceive by a glance even at the Reviewer's own version of the passage, that not the slightest allusion is made to the bubble—that the company alone is spoken of. (By the bye, our sapient Reviewer seems to imagine, that the bubble had no relation whatever to the company, although it is well known that the former is the most notorious circumstance in the history of the latter.) Secondly,—It is not stated in the Biographical Dictionary, as the critic represents, that Harley was merely a "patron and abettor" of the Earl of Orford, but, on the contrary, that "he was chosen their governor, as he had been THEIR FOUNDER AND CHIEF REGULATOR!"—Biog. Dict. vol. xviii., pp. 149-150.

Truly, such a person is admirably qualified to pronounce an opinion as to an author's acquaintance with our political or literary history!

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